

Appeal filed against hijack sentences

GENOA, Italy (R) — The public prosecutor's office on Friday appealed against sentences handed down by an Italian court which on Thursday convicted Palestinian leader Abu Abbas and two aides of organising the hijacking of the cruise liner Achille Lauro hijack. Judicial sources said the appeal was lodged against all the sentences passed by the court, which convicted 11 men, including three Palestinians who seized the ship last October. Four others were acquitted (See page 2). The sentences fell well short of the recommendations of the state prosecutor at the trial, Luigi Carli, who had called for seven life sentences and longer jail terms for the hijackers. The sources said that the prosecutor's office would file a more detailed appeal after court president, Lino Monteverde, published a detailed justification of how he reached his verdict. This is not expected for two months.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جورديان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية. الراي

South Sudanese city cut off

NAIROBI (R) — The southern Sudanese city of Juba is virtually cut off because of guerrillas and bandits and food is in short supply, travellers reaching Kenya by a air from Juba said Friday. They reported that gangs of armed men were robbing convoys of trucks loaded with grain sent overland from Uganda and were also looting the countryside. The World Food Programme this week began airlifting grain from Entebbe to Juba and similar flights were being organised by the European Community from Port Sudan in the north, officials in Nairobi said. Some three million people in Juba and the countryside of Sudan's Equatoria province are dependent on the food aid. But the travellers said most of the food was disappearing into the hands of southern Sudanese secessionist rebels from the Sudan Peoples Liberation Army, former Ugandan soldiers who had crossed the frontier.

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King receives cable from Fahd

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein on Thursday received a cable from King Fahd bin Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia in reply to one which he sent to the Saudi monarch upon his return to Amman Wednesday after a two-day working visit to Saudi Arabia. King Fahd thanked King Hussein for the brotherly feelings expressed by him during the visit and said that he was very pleased with the meeting he had with him. King Fahd also hoped that such meetings will be repeated to serve Arab and Islamic nations. The cable also wished the King continuing good health and happiness.

Royal Decree approves Badran resignation

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Royal Decree has approved the resignation of Dr. Adnan Badran, as president of Yarmouk University, according to a report in Sawt Al Shaab newspaper on Friday. Dr. Badran submitted his resignation to the Higher Education Council last Saturday, and the council recommended its acceptance to the King. No successor to Dr. Badran has been named yet.

Prince Hassan values Al Mahdi membership of ATF

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, president of the Arab Thought Forum (ATF) highly appreciated the joining of Mr. Sadeq Al Mahdi, Sudan's prime minister, as a member of the forum according to a report in Sawt Al Shaab newspaper. Mr. Al Mahdi is a 1957 graduate of Oxford University with honours in the fields of economics, philosophy and politics. He wrote many books, and the latest one is, "Sharia Punishment in Islamic Social Set-up".

Rifai meets Shawa, two PLO officials

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai on Friday held separate meetings with Rashad Shawa, former mayor of Gaza, PLO Executive Committee member Shafiq Elia Khouri and the committee's representative in Jordan Abdul Razak Al Yahya.

Waldheim meets Jordanian envoy

VIENNA (Petra) — Austrian President Kurt Waldheim met with Jordan's non-resident ambassador to Austria, Adnan Al Tahouni, during a reception he hosted on Thursday on the occasion of his inauguration as head of state. Mr. Tahouni conveyed the congratulations of His Majesty King Hussein to Dr. Waldheim and best wishes for success in the leadership of his people. Mr. Tahouni met Friday with former Austrian President Rudolf Kirchschlaeger and extended to him an invitation on behalf of the King to visit Jordan.

Israelis hovering off Sidon after raiding 'Ain Al Hilweh'

10 killed or wounded in naval and air barrage after battle with commandos

SIDON (R) — Israeli planes and gunboats hovered off the South Lebanese coast on Friday after an Israeli air raid which killed or wounded at least 10 people at a Palestinian refugee camp, witnesses said.

Security sources said two Palestinian fighters were killed and eight people, including two children, were injured when Israeli helicopter gunships attacked the sprawling 'Ain Al Hilweh camp.

The raid was in apparent reprisal for an attempted seaborne landing on Israel's northern coast hours earlier. All four commandos and two Israeli soldiers were killed in a three-hour battle on cliffs just inside Lebanon.

Few civilians ventured onto 'Ain Al Hilweh's dusty streets on Friday, and they scattered as Israeli planes flew overhead.

Earlier, they reported seeing gunboats sailing off the coast. Armed commandos deployed in nearby orchards as Palestinians braced for more attacks.

Some 500 civilians fled from 'Ain Al Hilweh to nearby Sidon on Thursday as the gunships pumped more than 16 missiles and rockets into the camp.

"I left after my nine-year-old daughter was wounded," said Umm Muhammad, 55. "I will not return to the camp for the time being."

kilometre from the border. Nine Israeli troops were wounded, the Israeli army spokesman added.

Israeli casualties were the highest in any sea intercept in the last two years, during which the navy has killed 31 alleged commandos and captured several in seven maritime engagements.

Israeli military sources said a navy patrol vessel saw the commandos in a rubber dinghy crammed with arms and explosives, heading for Israel under cover of darkness. They were forced ashore and fought a three-hour gun-battle with a coastal patrol.

During the battle, the area was illuminated by flares and helicopters as jets screamed overhead, witnesses said.

Israeli officials said that if the commandos had succeeded in attacking the Israeli beach resort of Nabariya or taking hostages, the government would have faced strong calls for Israeli military action in Lebanon or against Syria.

A 1978 landing by commandos who hijacked a bus killing over 30 people triggered an Israeli invasion of South Lebanon.

Earlier this week, Israel's leading strategic studies think-tank warned that an act of "terrorism" or a clash in Lebanon could lead to large-scale fighting between Israel and Syria.

Israel said to be selling controversial cluster bombs in American market

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israel is marketing a controversial cluster bomb, at the centre of U.S. technology-stealing accusations, in the United States, according to a report in the Jerusalem Post.

U.S. officials said Wednesday the Justice Department was investigating allegations that Israel had smuggled classified American technology to make its own cluster bombs after Washington banned the sale of the weapons to the Jewish state in 1982.

Israel denied the charge but said it legally bought equipment from the United States with export licences to help build the bombs according to its own design.

The Jerusalem Post quoted the general manager of the Israel weapons development authority (RAFAEL) as saying it was concentrating sales efforts for its own cluster bomb, designated the TAL-2, in the United States.

by the New York Times, said they were mystified by the Israeli statement in view of a four-year-old ban on exporting such technology. "If the Israelis ever said, 'we want an export licence for a widget that will be used for a cluster bomb,' we would have turned them down cold," said one State Department official.

For five months, the Justice Department and U.S. Customs Service have been investigating eight Israelis and 12 American businessmen suspected of being involved in the diversion of cluster bomb technology, said an administration source who asked not to be named.

The United States supplied Israel with cluster bombs before 1982 for use in "self-defence," but stopped the shipments because of reports about Israeli use of the bombs in the June 1982 invasion of Lebanon.

U.S. surprised over French sentencing of Lebanese

PARIS (AP) — The U.S. embassy, in an unusual statement, expressed surprise Friday at a French court's sentence on a Lebanese, and concern over reports that charges against him concerning the assassination of a U.S. diplomat may be dropped.

The embassy confirmed the U.S. government and the family of Colonel Charles M. Ray, the U.S. military attaché assassinated in Paris Feb. 18, 1982, had become civil parties to the investigation of Georges Ibrahim Abdallah's possible role in the killing.

"We hope that Abdallah, who makes no secret of his violent intentions against Americans, will serve his full term," the embassy said in the statement.

The statement — an unusual diplomatic comment on a local legal decision — was read to the AP by an embassy spokesman.

The French daily Le Figaro said Friday that Abdallah was "without doubt at the centre" of a complex situation involving the liberation of French hostages in Lebanon.

Socialists reject Andreotti's efforts to form government

ROME (AP) — Italy's 2-week-old political crisis deepened Friday as Bettino Craxi's Socialist party formally rejected the choice of Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti, a Christian Democrat, to form the country's 45th post-war government.

"The crisis has been pushed into a blind alley," said Mr. Craxi, who resigned June 27 but is staying on as caretaker premier. "We will do what's possible to get it out, but it won't be easy."

Mr. Andreotti, 67, a former five-time premier, was designated on Thursday by President Francesco Cossiga, a fellow Christian Democrat, to form a cabinet following unsuccessful attempts to revive Mr. Craxi's fallen five-party coalition.

Mr. Andreotti said he would seek to put together the same coalition of Christian Democrats, Socialists, Social Democrats, Republicans and Liberals.

Mr. Craxi, whose 34-month-old coalition was Italy's longest-lived government since World War II, resigned June 27 after losing a secret parliamentary vote.

The collapse followed weeks of squabbling between the Socialists



Giulio Andreotti

and Christian Democrats over which should head the government. Claudio Martelli, Mr. Craxi's right-hand man, said the Socialist rejection — decided at a meeting of top party officials on Friday — was not aimed at Mr. Andreotti personally but at "the brutal and unilateral" manner in which the Christian Democrats are seeking to assert "their domination" of the political life of the country and the leadership of the government.



ICRC chief condemns Israel's settlement policy and practices

AMMAN (Petra) — The chairman of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Alexander Hay, said on Friday settlements set up by Israeli occupation authorities in the occupied Arab territories are illegitimate and violate the international law. He added that the Israeli authorities do not respect international law.

Mr. Hay, currently on a visit to Jordan, said in a statement that the ICRC works through its office in the occupied territories towards providing protection to civilian inhabitants, persuading the Israeli authorities to respect international law, ICRC official regularly visit Arab prisoners in Israeli prisons, he said.

The Israeli authorities, he added, do not recognise the applicability for implementation of the Fourth Geneva Convention on protecting of civilian inhabitants of occupied territories. Mr. Hay said that the ICRC tries with the Israeli authorities, through its frequent contacts and protests, to persuade the occupation forces to respect rules of international law and to reach at results that would guarantee their application.

He expressed hope that the Israeli authorities will stop the expulsion of Arab citizens, demolition of Arab houses and establishing settlements.

The ICRC chairman said that the committee was initiating contacts with Iran to allow the committee's envoys to visit Iraqi prisoners of war at Iranian prisons and to hold talks with Iranian authorities to finalise the exchange of prisoners between Iraq and Iran.

U.S., Britain reject Franco-Soviet call for conference on Mideast

Combined agency dispatches

THE UNITED States and Britain have rejected a joint call by France and the Soviet Union for a meeting by five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council to help prepare for a Middle East conference to draw up a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

"The United States has always had reservations about the use of a preparatory meeting for an international conference, or an international conference to pursue Middle East peace," State Department spokesman Bernard Kalb said in Washington on Thursday. He was speaking to reporters shortly after French President Francois Mitterrand said in Moscow that he and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev had agreed that the five permanent members of the Security Council could prepare a Middle East conference.

Kalb said "the U.S. experience in the past has been that such conferences lead to posturing and rhetorical excess instead of real, hard negotiations."

"If the Soviet Union can demonstrate a willingness to play a constructive role in the search for a Middle East peace, there is a long list of things the Soviets can do to establish that they are indeed serious, beginning with a resumption of relations with the state of Israel," Kalb said.

The British rejection of the Franco-Soviet proposal was in a statement by the Foreign Office which said Britain was concerned at the deadlock in Middle East peace efforts, but said much preparatory work needed to be done before a conference as called for.

"We do not think the time is ripe," the statement said. Mr. Gorbachev made his proposal in a meeting earlier this week with Mr. Mitterrand.

The Soviet Union has long urged an international peace conference to break the Middle East stalemate, but its proposals have been regularly spurned by Israel and the United States.

The British spokesman said the agenda when Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze visits London next week.

Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov said on Wednesday that France and the Soviet Union had agreed that the five members of the Security Council — the United States, Britain, France, China and the Soviet Union — should attend such a conference.

Gerasimov stressed that the idea of including all Security Council members was only a proposal and that "three (countries) still have to be convinced" to take part.

The United States has consistently opposed an

international conference, saying that it preferred instead to try and organise direct negotiations between the Arabs and Israel, or to act as broker for such agreements as the 1978 Camp David accords between Israel and Egypt.

Gerasimov said that the French had made clear at this week's Kremlin talks that they favoured direct negotiations to end Middle East conflict.

However, he quoted the French as saying that "unfortunately, this approach has shown itself to be without a future" for the moment.

There was no immediate response to the French-Soviet call from China, the fifth member of the Security Council.

The latest proposal, announced after three days of talks between Mr. Mitterrand and Mr. Gorbachev, seemed intended to try and get the conference underway by broadening participation, the AP said.

Mr. Mitterrand said Thursday at a news conference that the proposal "is not the fruit of our three day's conversation here. It is the result of our thinking for two or three years."

Since direct negotiations in the Middle East have failed, he said, "it would be a good idea to bring into the negotiations — at least in the first phase — the permanent members of the Security Council."

Mandela declines to meet Howe

JOHANNESBURG (Agencies) — Jailed black nationalist leader Nelson Mandela will refuse to meet Sir Geoffrey Howe when the British foreign secretary visits South Africa on a peace mission later this month, Mr. Mandela's wife Winnie said Friday.

The announcement was the latest blow to the Howe mission which has been attacked by the governments of the frontline black states in the region and by black leaders in South Africa.

"He (Mr. Mandela) is not in a position to meet Sir Geoffrey at all," Mrs. Mandela told reporters after visiting her husband in Pollsmoor prison near Cape Town.

The government had indicated it would allow Mr. Howe to visit Mr. Mandela, jailed for life in 1964 for plotting sabotage by the African National Congress (ANC) movement to overthrow the white-ruled government.

Mr. Howe was in Mozambique on Friday to see President Samora Machel. He has received chilly

receptions on all three stops of his African tour, and was told he could not see President P.W. Botha this week because of scheduling problems. But two meetings have been scheduled for later this month.

Mrs. Mandela said she and her husband were not able to discuss the details of his refusal to see Mr. Howe, but that she viewed his visit as a "non-issue."

"There is no point whatsoever in meeting with him. No black leader of any relevance will waste his time by seeing yet another British eminent person who has come to prescribe to us how we should solve our problems," Mrs. Mandela said.

"Margaret Thatcher has no right whatsoever to prescribe to us how we should suffer," she added.

Mrs. Mandela went on to comment on the role of economic sanctions, but her remarks could not be reported under state-of-emergency restrictions that prohibit encouraging or promoting sanctions or other

action against South Africa. Mrs. Thatcher "is interested in the protection of British jobs, the maintenance of the British economy and in the protection of British interests in our country," Mrs. Mandela said.

Mrs. Mandela, who herself has been under banning orders nearly continuously since 1963, was formally freed from all restrictions this month.

Nobel Peace Prize winner Bishop Desmond Tutu, and another prominent black churchman, the Reverend Allan Boesak, have also said they would not have talks with the British minister.

In Strasbourg, France, the European Parliament on Thursday demanded the 12 European Community member states impose full economic sanctions against South Africa to pressure Pretoria into abandoning apartheid policies.

10 ANC men reportedly killed in clashes, page 8

Conference on Namibia endorses 'armed struggle'

VIENNA (AP) — A U.N.-sponsored conference on Namibia (South West Africa) ended here on Friday, endorsing "armed struggle" against South Africa by people of the territory.

The conference, which had started on Monday, also called for mandatory sanctions against South Africa in hopes of pressuring it to withdraw from the region.

South Africa occupies the mineral-rich territory in defiance of U.N. resolutions calling for independence and elections for Namibia. South Africa has said it will not pull out its forces unless Cuban troops are withdrawn from Angola, to the north.

The United States and Britain, which have refused to go along with full sanctions against South Africa, attended the 128-nation conference as observers. Several Western countries expressed reservations about the language in the final document endorsing "armed struggle."

"The conference affirms the legitimacy of the struggle of the Namibian people by every means at its disposal, including armed struggle to repel South Africa's aggression and to achieve

self-determination, freedom and independence in a united Namibia," the declaration said.

"I am satisfied that we have done the best we could," said Foreign Minister Benjamin Mkapa of Tanzania, the conference president.

"The conference condemns the continuing collaboration of certain Western states, Israel and other states with the racist regime of South Africa in the political, economic, military and nuclear fields in violation of United Nations resolutions and decisions," the declaration said.

Mr. Mkapa told reporters he deplored the hesitancy of Western governments to go along with the "armed struggle."

"Here is a situation where people are occupied militarily and you are telling them they have no right to take up arms," he said, "it's unbelievable."

Namibia was made a German protectorate in 1884 and was surrendered to South Africa in 1915 to be administered by that country under a League of Nations mandate.

South Africa refused to accept United Nations authority.

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The Jordan Times
new telephone numbers:
667171-6 and 670141-4

2 groups claim Beirut's British embassy bombing

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Two hitherto unheard of groups have claimed responsibility for a bomb explosion that wrecked two British embassy cars in Christian east Beirut's suburb of Jal Al Deeb.

One claim was made Friday in a type-written Arabic language statement delivered by hand to Western news agency offices in mainly Muslim west Beirut by a group calling itself the Arab Guerrilla Cells.

The statement threatened to "hit at all imperialist interests" in retaliation for the British-supported U.S. air attack on Libya on April 15.

"The American and European imperialist existence will remain a constant target of our blows," the statement said. "European and American nations should understand that there will be no peace or security as long as their governments remain opposed to our rightful Arab causes."

The other responsibility claim was made by a telephone caller who told the independent Beirut newspaper *Al Nahar* the Anti-Imperialist Populist Brigades engineered the bombing attack.

"The attack was directed against the headquarters of British intelligence in Jal Al Deeb that cooperates with Israeli and American secret services," the caller was quoted by *Al Nahar* as saying.

The explosion Thursday resulted from a charge of five kilograms (11 pounds) of TNT that destroyed two British embassy Volvo and Renault cars parked near Jal Al Deeb building where embassy diplomats reside, police said. No casualties were reported and the building sustained material damage.

Kanaan confident of success

Meanwhile Syria's military

intelligence head in Lebanon, Brig. Ghazi Kanaan, was quoted Friday as saying the Damascus-backed security drive in Muslim west Beirut would succeed in restoring order.

"Certainly, we will not fail," Brig. Kanaan, who is supervising joint Syrian-Lebanese troop patrols clearing gunmen from west Beirut streets, told the French-language *Nouvelles* magazine.

He described the first Syrian military deployment in Beirut for years as moral support for Lebanon.

"It is above all moral support. It is simply to tell the Lebanese security forces — which have the means of bringing the situation under control — that we are with them," he said.

Asked if the latest peace effort would succeed, he told the weekly it was bound to do so "because of Syrian prestige, and because citizens can no longer endure" the situation.

Hundreds of Syrian commandos, observers and security men joined nearly 1,000 Lebanese troops and police a week ago to restore order in the western sector, hit by militia anarchy and feuding.

Official Syrian newspapers Thursday said security moves in west Beirut should be extended to the eastern sector to help end Lebanon's civil war.

The papers made no mention of Syrian troops who deployed in west Beirut last week to back a Lebanese police and army drive against militia anarchy. However, Syrian media have reported the work of Syrian observers already stationed there.

"The security plan has succeeded in west Beirut, and Lebanese in east Beirut are looking for the same step because they are not living in peace or security. The majority of them demand the same measures," the government daily *Tishrin* said.

The Christian "Lebanese Forces," the dominant militia in east Beirut, is led by anti-Syrian fighters who helped wreck a previous Syrian-mediated accord to end 11 years of war.

"All Lebanese who witnessed the (recent) plan for west Beirut and the Palestinian camps now look for another big national step to be taken in all Lebanon," *Tishrin* added.

"The Lebanese masses support the security plan, which is a light showing the way for the next step towards peace and security throughout all Lebanon after long years of fighting," the daily *Al Baath*, organ of Syria's ruling Baath Party, said.

A Beirut newspaper said Thursday Lebanese President Amin Gemayel wants a clear understanding with Damascus and does not oppose the latest Syrian-sponsored drive to restore peace in west Beirut.

The Christian Falange Party newspaper *Al Amsal* said the 44-year-old Maronite leader told parliamentarians Wednesday the situation "necessitated... a frank and clear understanding between Lebanon and Syria."

Earlier this week, local media quoted official sources close to Mr. Gemayel as saying the deployment of Syrian commandos on west Beirut streets last Friday was "illegitimate."

The Falange leader has come under increasing pressure from political opponents to resign after he refused to back a Syrian-mediated accord signed last December to end Lebanon's 11-year civil conflict.

Jewish Defence League uses bombs and mechanical devices. According to the police, the professor and his wife were stabbed repeatedly by a dark-skinned masked man who could be a black American.

Palestine-born Farouqi and his American-born wife Lois were murdered and their pregnant daughter seriously wounded in their Wyncote home in the Cheltenham Township in the early hours of May 27.

Cheltenham Township police and the Philadelphia branch of the FBI are investigating the murders. Meanwhile, in their continuing bid to focus nationwide attention on reported harassment of Arab-Americans, the ADC will be presenting testimony before the U.S. House of Representatives Judiciary Subcommittee on Criminal Justice on July 16. Among the witnesses will be the wife of Alex Oudeh, the ADC director in Los Angeles who was killed in a bomb blast in October 1985. The FBI is still investigating that case.

Concern over the situation in Aden has been fuelled by reports of a continuous exodus of South Yemenis to the North in fear of a government crackdown.

Last month, South Yemen's former Fisheries Minister Mohammad Alkoush said a new power struggle was emerging in Aden because of differences between Mr. Attas and the military over an amnesty granted to Mr. Nasser Mohammad's supporters.

Behind Mr. Saleh's mediation is his concern that political uncertainty in the South — linked to his country by strong tribal ties — may jeopardise his own rule, the sources said.

Mr. Saleh also wants a solution to the problem of some 6,000 South Yemeni exiles who have taken sanctuary in his country, they added.

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Uncertainty bogs down relations between 2 Yemens

BAHRAIN (R) — Persistent political uncertainty in South Yemen appears to have bogged down attempts to improve ties with neighbouring North Yemen, diplomatic sources in the region have said.

Relations between North Yemen and Marxist-ruled South Yemen were soured last January by a power struggle in Aden that ousted President Ali Nasser Mohammad, left up to 10,000 killed and wrecked the economy.

Last week, Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi brought South Yemen's new leader, Haider Abu Baker Al Attas, and his North Yemeni counterpart, Ali Abdullah Saleh, together for the first time since the fighting.

Col. Qadhafi, emerging from a self-imposed isolation since U.S. raids in April, wanted the two men to reopen talks on a union between their two Arabian peninsula states, a talking point since 1982.

Instead, the issue of national reconciliation between Aden's new rulers and ousted supporters of Mr. Nasser Mohammad dominated the Libya talks, the sources said.

Official statements reiterated that a merger of the Yemens would be a step on the road to Arab unity. But no concrete steps on normalising ties were made, the sources added.

Mr. Saleh was reported to have hosted talks in Sanaa last month between an envoy of Mr. Nasser Mohammad and South Yemeni officials on a plan calling for an end to arrests and trials of government critics in Aden.

Aden emphatically denied the reports and said it would not talk to Mr. Nasser Mohammad, who now lives in Ethiopia.

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Safety, financing delay decision on Egypt's reactors

CAIRO (AP) — Egyptian scientists say they see no alternative for Egypt but to introduce nuclear energy to meet its power needs by the end of the century. But the government, worried over safety and financing, is holding up a decision.

For many months, President Hosni Mubarak's government has been pondering construction of a nuclear power plant, the first step in an ambitious programme that calls for eight 1,000-megawatt reactors by the year 2030.

The soul-searching deepened after last April's nuclear reactor explosion and fire at Chernobyl in Soviet Ukraine and by Egypt's economic difficulties following a sharp drop in oil export income caused by falling prices worldwide.

Scientists estimate one 1,000-megawatt plant would cost at least \$1.5 billion and possibly as much as \$2 billion. Egypt already owes at least \$32 billion in foreign debts, with servicing costs averaging \$3 billion a year.

Ali Saeedi, head of the Nuclear Power Plants Authority, which is responsible for building and operating Egypt's nuclear power system, insists that the huge startup price should not be the

determining factor in a country like Egypt.

He said that by the year 2000, the existing resources will meet only about 55 per cent of Egypt's energy needs. Nuclear and coal plants are intended to cover the remaining 45 per cent, he told the Associated Press, and "in the long run, nuclear is much cheaper than coal."

But despite the statistics, the government is hesitant to commit itself to the atom.

"If there is even one per cent of doubt (about safety), we will not start the (initial) nuclear project or any other such project," Prime Minister Ali Lutfi said. He was speaking with reporters shortly after the Chernobyl accident and consequent orders from Mr. Mubarak to take a closer look at the project.

The Chernobyl accident also sparked attacks by opposition party newspapers against the project on safety grounds.

Several nuclear experts interviewed by the AP, however, attested to the safety of the pressurised water reactor, which Western nations are offering Egypt.

In the pressurised water reactor, or PWR, water is used as

both the moderator, which regulates the fission of uranium 235, and as the coolant, which transmits the heat resulting from the fission to the power-generating turbines.

Advocates of nuclear power warn that Egypt already is energy-hungry, and alternatives to nuclear power are unreliable.

Mohammad Al Waki, head of the Engineering and Computer Science Department at the American University in Cairo, warned that the country's oil supply is being depleted rapidly, with consumption increasing at 12 per cent to 15 per cent annually.

Egypt badly needs a new and dependable source of energy to use once the oil reserves are exhausted, he said. "There is only one avenue for us: We have to go nuclear," he said.

As for solar energy, he said, that's good "only for heating water or for taking a sunbath." He dismissed it as a major source in the nation's future energy map.

"We only have the choice between coal and nuclear power," said Mr. Saeedi of the Power Plants Authority.

He pointed out, however, that existing coal reserves in the Sinai peninsula, estimated at 30 billion to 50 billion tons (27 billion to 47 billion metric tons), are insufficient to operate a coal-fired power station for very long.

Mr. Saeedi acknowledges that nuclear power stations are more expensive than conventional ones, partly due to the safety precautions required.

"We will analyse all the possible

and impossible accidents before we install a nuclear power station," he said. Such potential mishaps range from a complete break within the largest pipe to an airplane crash on the plant, he added.

Nevertheless, he said the operating cost of a nuclear plant is much lower than that of a coal-powered plant and fuel costs less. "If we don't go nuclear today, it will be more expensive tomorrow," he said.

Egypt has received three bids for the first nuclear power station at Al Daba, on the Mediterranean coast 150 kilometres west of Alexandria. The bidders are Westinghouse Electric Corp. in partnership with Japan's Mitsubishi Co.; a French-Italian consortium led by Framatome of France; and Kraftwerk Union of West Germany.

Opposition party objections to the nuclear project intensified after a radioactive cobalt 60 device at Cairo University was misplaced accidentally in May and found 10 days later on the campus. Part of a lead shield covering the device had been removed.

Although nobody was found to have been contaminated, the incident, coming so soon after Chernobyl, spurred public scepticism.

Hamad Fawzi, chairman of the Nuclear Safety and Regulatory Centre at the Atomic Energy Authority, said: "I think the cobalt 60 incident had a more direct impact (on public opinion) than Chernobyl."

Turkish Cypriots announce crossing points reopening

NICOSIA (R) — Turkish Cypriot authorities said Friday they would reopen Saturday crossing points to the Greek side of the island which were closed a week ago.

Dervis Eroglu, prime minister of the self-styled "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus," said in a statement the closure had achieved its aim of demonstrating that Turkish Cypriots exercised sovereign rights in the north of Cyprus.

Turkish Cypriots control the northern third of the Mediterranean island, which was invaded by Turkish troops in 1974 following a pro-Greek coup in Nicosia.

Mr. Eroglu said United Nations peacekeeping forces would be able to move freely about the island as before, but details would have to be worked out between the two sides.

Ambassadors accredited to the Republic of Cyprus in the south will be free to cross in cars carrying their national flags, but other diplomats will have to show identity cards at the main Nicosia Ledra Palace checkpoint and give destinations.

Other visitors to the north will need visas, something which the republic up to now has only

demanded at air and seaports.

Friday's statement followed a meeting of the northern government. Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash told acting U.N. Cyprus Representative James Holger and U.N. peace force commander Gen. Gunther Greindl of the decision.

Mr. Denktash said in a statement that closure of the crossings had shown the world there was a state in the north of the island.

His republic is recognised only by Turkey, whose Prime Minister Turgut Ozal visited the territory last week. Other countries recognise the Greek-Cypriot controlled Republic of Cyprus government in the south.

Mr. Ozal called in several speeches for the world community to accept Turkish Cypriots, who have only limited trade and communication links with the outside world as a result of their diplomatic isolation, as equals with Greek Cypriots.

The Turkish Cypriots said the border closure was prompted by U.N. criticism of Mr. Ozal's visit and by the closure of the crossings by Greek Cypriot demonstrators during his stay.

Turkey to hold by-elections on Sept. 28 for assembly seats

ANKARA (R) — Turkey will hold by-elections for 11 vacant parliamentary seats on Sept. 28, parliament officials said Friday.

The assembly passed a government bill Thursday night which also included orders for state radio and television to air political parties' statements in news programmes, they said.

The government thus bowed to protests from opposition parties against an earlier plan to ban such broadcasts during the campaign.

The poll will be a major test for the conservative Motherland Party government of Prime Minister Turgut Ozal, although his 68-seat majority in the 400-seat parliament is not at risk.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION
Tel. 73111-19

PROGRAMME ONE
17:00 Kanan
17:30 Cartoons
17:50 Scientific programme
18:15 Kids of Degra Street
18:40 Animals 2000
19:10 Agriculture programme (local)
19:40 News in French
19:50 News programme on Iraq
20:00 News in Arabic
20:45 Arabic series
21:30 Local programme
22:20 Arabic film
23:00 News summary in Arabic
23:10 Film cont.
23:35 Varieties programme

PROGRAMME TWO
18:00 French programme
18:30 La vallee des peupliers
19:00 News in French
19:15 Adjournd'hui en France
19:30 News in Arabic
19:40 News in Arabic
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Louisiana
21:10 News in English
22:00 News in English
22:30 Feature film: Dead Man's Folly

RADIO JORDAN
855 KHz. AM & 99 Mhz. FM
Tel. 73111-19

07:00 Light Music
07:30 News Desk
08:00 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
10:05 Morning Show Continued
11:00 Oriental Foods
11:15 Your Health
11:30 Men from the Ministry
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Session
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session cont.
14:00 News Bulletin
14:15 Jordan Weekly
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Instrumental Old Favourites
17:00 Special Feature
17:30 Music
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Top Twenty
19:00 News Desk
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 Songs from Movies
20:30 Yes Minister
21:00 News Summary
21:05 In Concert
22:00 News Summary

WHAT'S GOING ON

Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th century orientalist artists.

A French exhibition entitled "La mode, les modes, la rue" at the French Cultural Centre (until July 24).

Indian book exhibition, at the University of Jordan Library (until July 12).

JERASH FESTIVAL

South Theatre
7:00-8:30 p.m. The Emir Fakhro
8:30-11:30 p.m. Alma Ata Young
9:30-11:30 p.m. Alma Ata Young
10:00-11:30 p.m. Alma Ata Young
11:30-1:00 p.m. Alma Ata Young
1:30 p.m. Alma Ata Young
7:00-8:30 p.m. Poetry
9:00-10:00 p.m. Children of the World
(U.S.A.)
8:00-9:00 p.m. Al Wa'a Play
Forum
6:30-7:15 p.m. The Armed Forces
Band
8:00-9:00 Theatre Abate "France"

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267
American Centre Tel. 644371
British Council Tel. 631478
French Cultural Centre Tel. 637009
Coptic Institute Tel. 641993
Soviet Cultural Centre Tel. 644033
Spanish Cultural Centre Tel. 624049
Turkish Cultural Centre Tel. 639777
Haya Arts Centre Tel. 665195
Hassan Youth City Tel. 6671106
Y.W.C.A. Tel. 641793
Y.W.M.C.A. Tel. 664251
Amman Municipal Library Tel. 637111
University of Jordan Library Tel. 843555

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre. Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Clived Hill). Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport, tel. (08) 53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

03:25 Belgrade (JU)
07:15 London, Larnaca (BA)
09:15 Athens (GR)
10:30 Karachi, Bahrain (RJ)
10:45 Cairo (RJ)
10:50 Doha (RJ)
10:55 Dhahran (RJ)
11:00 Riyadh (RJ)
11:15 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
11:30 Abu Dhabi (RJ)
12:45 Baghdad (RJ)
13:40 Bahrain (RJ)
14:05 Cairo (MS)
14:25 Kuwait (RJ)
14:30 New York, Vienna (RJ)
16:30 Paris, Damascus (AF)
18:45 Moscow (RJ)
19:45 Copenhagen, Frankfurt (RJ)
19:25 Beirut (RJ)
19:30 Amman (RJ)
19:35 Istanbul (RJ)
20:10 Rome, Damascus (AZ)
00:15 Frankfurt, Damascus (LH)
01:30 Baghdad (RJ)

DEPARTURES

04:15 Belgrade (JU)
06:20 Frankfurt (LH)
07:00 Athens (GR)
08:00 Moscow (RJ)
09:10 Larnaca, London (BA)
10:30 Geneva, Madrid (RJ)
13:00 Vienna, New York (RJ)
13:40 Paris (RJ)
13:15 Frankfurt, Brussels (RJ)
13:45 Rome (RJ)
14:00 Istanbul (RJ)
14:00 Baghdad (RJ)
14:50 Cairo (MS)
15:00 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi (GF)
15:30 Cairo (RJ)
15:35 Kuwait (RJ)
20:30 Kuwait (RJ)
21:30 Jeddah (RJ)
21:00 Baghdad (RJ)
22:15 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
22:15 Abu Dhabi (RJ)
22:30 Cairo (RJ)

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50
Amal Hospital 674155

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Salman Dabboubi 812568
Dr. Issam Abu Ruzik 611784
First pharmacy 661912
Al Salem pharmacy 636790
JERASH:
Dr. Lawrence Bader 271883
ZARQA:
Dr. Maysoon Hanna 985750

GENERAL

Jordan Television 73111/19
Radio Jordan 73111/19
Ministry of Tourism 642311
Hotel complaints 666412
Price complaints 661176
Telephone information 12
Jordan and Middle East calls 10
Overseas calls 17
Repair service 11

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price # ft per kg.

Apple (local) 300 / 250
Apple (green) 430 / 400
Apple (American & French) 430 / 380
Apples (per one) 140 / 100
Apricots 320 / 280
Banana 300 / 260
Banana (Muhannad) 250 / 220
Banana (Muhannad) 330 / 280
Cabbage 120 / 80
Cauliflower 160 / 120
Cherry 350 / 300
Cucumber 170 / 120
Cucumber (large) 120 / 80
Eggplant (small) 150 / 100
Fig 600 / 400
Garlic 700 / 650
Grape 350 / 300
Grapefruit 180 / 150
Lemon 240 / 180
Lemon (per one) 140 / 100
Mango 180 / 140
Mango 80 / 50
Melon (Sweet) 180 / 120
Onion (dry) 80 / 50
Onion (wet) 380 / 340
Orange (local and Valencia) 160 / 140
Peach 480 / 400
Peas 70 / 70
Peas 250 / 220
Pepper (sweet) 250 / 220
Pepper (hot) 250 / 220
Pineapple 250 / 200
Radishes 160 / 120
Raspberries 120 / 80
Tomatoes 700 / 650
Vine leaves 350 / 300
Watermelon 100 / 70

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be fair, with northerly moderate wind. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and calm sea.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Chief of staff leaves for France today

AMMAN (Petra) — Army Chief-of-Staff Fathi Abu Taleb is due to pay an official visit to France on Saturday at the invitation of his French counterpart, Lieutenant General Abu Taleb will be accompanied on his visit by a military delegation.

Cabinet appoints new CBJ board members

AMMAN (Petra) — The cabinet has appointed Haimdi Al Tabba'a and Ziyad Imab to serve as members of the board of directors of the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) for three years. They will succeed Issam Bdeir and Zuhair Khouri whose membership has expired.

CSC receives 10,493 job applications

AMMAN (J.T.) — A total of 10,493 citizens have applied for jobs in government offices through the Civil Service Commission (CSC) in the first five months of 1986, according to a report in Sawi Al Shaab Arabic daily newspaper. The report said that among those applicants, 48 hold doctoral degrees and 11 others are physicians, while the rest are holders of M.A., B.A. or tajwili and community college diplomas.

University allocates seats for expatriates

AMMAN (J.T.) — The University of Jordan will assign five per cent of its seats for children of Jordanian expatriates, according to university sources quoted by Al Ra'i Arabic daily newspaper. The paper said that the measure will be applied in the coming 1986-87 academic year and priority will be given to students with higher grades. According to instructions from the Council of Higher Education, another five per cent of the seats at the university will be kept for non-Jordanian Arab students, the paper added. The paper noted that the council's regulations provide for the University of Jordan to accept 2,500 students in the coming year.

Jordan to invite WHO chief for a visit

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will invite Mr. Thomas Lambo, the director general of the World Health Organisation (WHO), to visit Jordan according to an announcement issued in Amman Thursday. The announcement said that the prime minister has approved the invitation and that the visit will take place in the coming month. The announcement said that Mr. Lambo will hold talks with Health Ministry officials on developing cooperation between WHO and the Ministry of Health on matters connected with health affairs.

WAJ president to attend water talks

AMMAN (Petra) — Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ) president Mohammad Saleh Keilani will leave for England today to attend an international conference on water-related issues.

Prince Ra'd opens sports camp for handicapped

KARAK (Petra) — Prince Ra'd, chief chamberlain and president of the Jordan Sports Federation for the Handicapped (JSFH) Thursday opened a sports camp for handicapped youngsters which is being held at the Mu'ta Centre for Special Education. The camp was established in 1982 by the Queen Alia Jordan Social Welfare Fund and it accommodates 40 mentally handicapped and hearing impaired people.

The four-day camp aims at enriching the experiences of the handicapped and giving them the opportunity to practice sporting and recreational activities. It also aims to teach the handicapped self independence, the spirit of social cooperation and group participation. Taking part in the event are 50 students from the Young Women's Muslim Association (YWMA), the Nazik Al Hariri Centre for Special Education, the Mu'ta Centre for Special Education and the Swedish Organisation for Individual Relief.

Later Thursday, Prince Ra'd chaired a meeting at Mu'ta University for representatives of official and voluntary institutions in Karak Governorate. During the meeting they discussed topics related to promoting awareness about dealing with handicapped people as active members of society. Prince Ra'd called for promoting public awareness and for extending help and aid to the handicapped. At the end of the meeting a working team was formed to promote sports activities for the handicapped.

Jordan, Egypt discuss joint company for meat production

CAIRO (J.T.) — Egypt and Jordan are currently involved in talks aimed at establishing a joint company for the production of lean meat. The Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said that a Jordanian delegation is now in Cairo for talks on the company and for discussion on bolstering bilateral cooperation in animal husbandry matters. The agency said that the projected company aims at raising at least 100,000

Cement factory opens training course for technicians today

AMMAN (Petra) — A week-long training course on cement production will open Saturday at the Jordan Cement Factories Industries Company in Fuheis. The course, organised in cooperation with the Arab Cement and Building Materials Union, will offer the 35 participants the chance to familiarise themselves with materials used in the manufacture of cement and production and

maintenance work. There will also be training in the use of machinery and equipment employed in the industry.

The participants, all technicians and engineers from Arab countries in addition to Jordan, are employed in the cement industry. This will be the fourth training course of its kind organised by the Jordanian company.



KING HONOURS SAUDI POET — His Majesty King Hussein Thursday conferred the Nakhta Medal on Prince Abdullah Al Faisal Al Saud who is visiting Jordan to participate in the Fifth Jerash Festival of Culture and Arts. The presentation ceremony took place at Al Nadwa Palace in the presence of Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and the Saudi ambassador to Jordan, Prince Abdullah attended the opening of the Jerash Festival on Wednesday and recited a poem (Petra photo)

Special committee approves JD 60m sale of fertiliser company to JPMC

By Rana Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A special committee for economic security has approved the sale of the Jordan Fertilisers Industry Company (JFIC) to the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company (JPMC) for JD 60 million. The committee has also sorted out issues related to settling the distribution of the fertiliser company's shares and assets. An earlier cabinet decision approved the merger procedures for both companies.

According to a senior JPMC source, the JFIC's expected cumulative losses to September 1986 will reach JD 110 million.

The JFIC has a capital of JD 55 million and owns a JD 145 million plant situated 17 kilometres south of Aqaba. The plant has a daily output of 1,800 tonnes of sulphuric acid, 1,250 tonnes of phosphoric acid and 1,100 tonnes of diammonium phosphate. The company was established in 1975 and it commissioned the sulphuric and phosphoric acid units in 1982.

Due to the sharp fall of international world prices for fertilisers, JFIC sustained heavy losses and by the end of 1985 its losses were estimated at JD 39.62 million and by the end of June 1986 a further loss of JD 9 million was registered.

According to the senior JPMC official: "Balancing out the company's losses will be achieved in a short period. There is really no problem."

The authorised and fully subscribed capital of JFIC is divided into 5.5 million shares of JD 10 each.

After shareholder's accounts with the JFIC have been settled, the government will sort out the remaining budget through a special fund which has been allocated for the purpose, the committee said in its report.

As far as shareholders are

concerned, a number of Arab and local companies will transfer their JFIC's shares to the JPMC at the nominal value of each share in the two companies.

Private sector shareholders, whose total number of shares number below 100, will be paid 50 per cent of the shares' nominal value, while those exceeding the 100 share ceiling will be given the over-the-counter value of each share in accordance with 1985 regulations on the transfer of shares.

In an earlier interview with the Jordan Times, Wasef Azar, the director general of the JPMC, said that his company will be shouldering a commitment of JD 60 million which includes the assets and losses of JFIC and he added that JPMC will offer compensation to JFIC shareholders.

The final report on the company's operations revealed

that it sold nearly 85,000 tonnes of fertilisers to India, China, Italy, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Australia and France in 1985.

The report said that the company's total assets were JD 123,239,267, at the end of last year and the total losses incurred until mid-1985 amounted to JD 21,915,072.

In another related incident, Mr. Azar who took over JPMC's management on Feb. 7, 1983, declined to give the reasons which led him to submit his resignation from the directorship of JPMC on July 9 this year.

"Everyone has the inclination to change his job every now and then," Mr. Azar, holder of a masters degree in development administration, told the Jordan Times in an interview. He refused to give reasons which prompted his resignation saying: "My resignation is not final, it has to be approved by the company's board of directors."

NRA official outlines oil exploration plans, reserves

By Samir Ghawi
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The director general of the Natural Resources Authority (NRA), Mr. Kamal Jreizat, has called for establishing a national Jordanian company to conduct exploratory projects in the Kingdom to search for oil and other minerals.

Addressing a meeting of the Philadelphia Lions Club at the Jerusalem Hotel in Amman on Wednesday night, Mr. Jreizat said that throughout Jordan's modern history it was only foreign companies and the NRA which have been involved in implementing oil exploration projects in the country.

Commending the private sector for its vital and prominent role in Jordan's economic growth, Mr. Jreizat noted that a public shareholding company with strong, dedicated private sector involvement would give an important impetus to prospecting potential as such a firm would enjoy greater flexibility and freedom than the NRA and would have a higher degree of loyalty and attachment to the Kingdom's development than foreign firms.

In his address entitled "Petroleum: potential resources in Jordan," Mr. Jreizat gave the following breakdown (in Jordanian dinars) for the Kingdom's oil bill paid in hard currency: 1975 JD 24 million; 1976 JD 33 million; 1977 JD 36 million; 1978 JD 44 million; 1979 JD 67 million; 1980 JD 108 million; 1981 JD 166 million; 1982 JD 200 million; 1983 JD 199 million; 1984 JD 238 million and 1985 JD 209 million.

Mr. Jreizat pointed out that the

Oil shale

In addition, Mr. Jreizat continued, about 15,000 square kilometres of volcanic rock in the eastern parts of Jordan contain shale oil in large quantities. Moreover, Mr. Jreizat revealed that the Lejoun area in Karak Governorate is extremely rich in oil shale as it contains about one billion tonnes of reserves and that 1,000 tonnes of oil shale were shipped to China last month for studies on its feasibility for extraction which, if positive, will lead to bringing in a distilling unit to process oil shale at a cost \$15 a barrel and at a rate of 55,000 barrels per day.

Techmasheexport team of USSR in Amman



A team from Techmasheexport arrived in Amman on Tuesday July 8, to supervise the Pumps Exhibition which is open from 10-7-86 to 14-7-86 in cooperation with Suleiman Kelany Corporation. The exhibition aims to introduce the various range of pumps produced by the Soviet Union.

Rifai reviews Jordan's economic policies, scopes for investment

Prime minister, in wide-ranging interview, discusses Jordan's ties with expatriates, oil exploration projects and 5-year plan

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian government has implemented most recommendations adopted by the First Jordanian Expatriates' Conference held in Amman last summer and a full report will be submitted to the Second Jordanian Expatriates' Conference, due to open under royal patronage in Amman on Monday, Prime Minister Zaid Rifai said Thursday.

He said that the conference, which is due to discuss all matters of concern to Jordanians living abroad, will debate the remaining recommendations which have not yet been implemented.

Mr. Rifai, speaking in an interview with Al Mughtareb Al Arabi magazine which is published in London, said that the government has taken measures to bolster expatriates' relations with their home country and to maintain channels of communication between these expatriates and Jordan.

He said Jordan believes that there should be no difference whatsoever between Jordanians living in the country and those abroad as they both have the same responsibilities and rights under the constitution and the law.

He said that the government's recent measures concerning expatriates are designed to facilitate the process of them investing capital in their home country. These measures and these facilities, the prime minister said, have been extended to include all non-Jordanian Arab nationals wishing to invest in Jordan.

Jordan's economy

Going on to discuss Jordan's economy, Mr. Rifai said that it has been directly affected by the world economic recession because it is an open economy and strongly linked to those of Arab oil producing countries. Despite the unfavourable economic circumstances, Jordan has been able to maintain a relatively high rate of economic growth, nearly 4.5 per cent at current prices, an achievement realised during the previous 1981-1985 five-year national development plan, the prime minister pointed out. He said that this could be regarded as a major achievement under the prevailing difficult economic circumstances.

As a result of the sound economic policies followed by Jordan, the dinar has maintained its strength at a time when other currencies in the Arab area have

suffered sharp fall in their value, and Jordan has been able to increase its exports and reduce its imports, the prime minister noted.

These, he said, are all indications of the resilient and firm Jordanian economy and its ability to adapt to international, regional and local influences and developments.

The world economic recession, the prime minister continued, has not dissuaded Jordan from undertaking administrative, legislative, financial, monetary and commercial measures to pursue the aims of progress and development and the Kingdom has continued to confront all economic crises and to enhance the national economy.

In this respect Jordan has been moving ahead to adapt to the effects of economic recession, to rejuvenate the national economy and to maintain the momentum of a process towards progress through implementing a new 1986-1990 five-year national development plan, the prime minister said.

Five-year plan

The new plan, he added, opens the door for enormous investments in agriculture, animal husbandry projects, industry, services, and construction. At present, the government is reconsidering legislation pertaining to economic aspects — including the companies law and the law for encouraging foreign investments in Jordan — with a view to coping with developments and maintaining the economic momentum, the prime minister explained.

He said that at present there are enormous opportunities for investment in Jordan's financial securities, government bonds and other financial and monetary spheres. For this reason, the government has recently adopted measures designed to strengthen the Amman Financial Market to enable it to organise the buying and selling shares and bonds, the prime minister continued.

Mr. Rifai referred to Jordan's

economic and political stability which, he said, has been instrumental in enabling Jordan to attract investments.

Referring to Jordanians employed in the Gulf, Mr. Rifai said they receive the best possible treatment and respect from their host countries in the public and private sectors and at all levels. This, he said, reflects the unique relationship which His Majesty King Hussein maintains with the leaders of the Gulf states and the high quality of Jordanians assuming important positions and the efficiency and skill they display in conducting their work.

Mr. Rifai noted that despite the fact that Jordanian expatriates are now returning to settle in Jordan, there are expectations of a new outflow of Jordanians finding jobs abroad. Also, he said the new five-year plan has made provisions for absorbing returning expatriates and also takes into consideration the number of those going abroad to work.

Oil prospecting

Referring to oil prospecting in Jordan, the prime minister said that this is an ongoing process and falls within a national strategy for enhancing the country's energy potentials. This strategy, he said, is designed to ensure local energy sources from oil, shale oil and solar energy with a great deal of attention being given to the rationalisation of energy consumption.

Mr. Rifai went on to say that Jordan is continuing with its national drilling scheme which started in the early 1980s, especially in the Azraq region where 20 wells have been dug with encouraging results.

Oil prospecting, he provided new data and more information on the country's geology and Jordan and several world oil companies have concluded agreements with the government to undertake oil exploration projects, the prime minister noted.

So far Jordan has completed seismological surveys along a 20,000 kilometre length of land in cooperation with Iraqi teams, the prime minister added.

Fuel prices

Referring to fuel prices in Jordan, Mr. Rifai said that crude oil prices have been fluctuating on world markets and Jordan has been importing its needs of crude from Saudi Arabia and Iraq at pre-established prices.

FRENESIE 36

استعراض غربي راقص

في ديسكو الباشا

From 12 - 26 July 1986



AT
Pasha
DISCOTHEQUE

HOTEL JORDAN INTER-CONTINENTAL

Jordan Times

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 Jordan Times advertising department.

Come To Think Of It

The bashers are with us

By Ibrahim Abu Nab

The bashers are too much
 With us now. You never
 Know when they are going
 To bash or why....
 Or who will be bashed
 By whom or where....
 The only thing to remember
 Is that the bashers,
 By the leave of God, will
 Bash

On the morning of July 15, 1964, writes Tom Wicker, the New York Times gave its readers a detailed account of a speech by General Dwight D. Eisenhower to the previous night's session of the Republican National Convention. Four paragraphs down, the following passage occurs:

"But the convention hall fairly exploded when the general told the delegates that they should not let themselves be divided by those outside our family, including sensation-seeking columnists and commentators...."

"I was not," adds Wicker, "prepared for Eisenhower's attack on columnists and commentators, much less for the response to it. There was a deafening roar of boos directed at the press stands flanking the speakers' platform and many on the convention floor jumped up and shook their fists at those in the glassed-in booths."

One can imagine the ugly mood of that mob. They had an almost religious feeling of self-righteousness, of being a "holy family," as it were, whose exclusivity and credibility was being violated by the so-called truth seekers. And that was why those Americans got into their bashing mood.

A few weeks ago, we were told

by some Washington correspondents that the Americans were now in a so-called Arab-bashing mood. They would bash Arabs at the drop of a hat. And former Senator James Abu Riz said he wouldn't be surprised if Americans went on the streets to bash any American of Arab descent just as happened during the Second World War to Americans of German and Japanese descent.

It is of course easier to incite a mob against outsiders than to incite it against the moulders of its own mind. And it should be in the interest of such moulders to help find an outside target for the vicissitudes of the people in power rather than let those people fix their eyes on them! They must help find a scapegoat lest they become the scapegoat themselves.

The urge to bash, as one psychologist told me, is inherent in big power politics. If a big power is not seen bashing a smaller power on the head, then the big power will not be seen big enough and will not be feared. The Republicans in the U.S. understood well this principle. So they went for bashing and they bashed Grenada and Libya and they are still prancing wanting to bash more countries. "Bashing an outsider," the psychologist added, "is one way of achieving internal unity behind a political leader who finds it increasingly difficult in modern times to keep people behind him and not in front of the TV screen. So if there were no enemy, he would have to be invented."

"The English language," said a philologist, "more than any other

modern language, is becoming a language for bashing."
 "You don't say," said I.
 "Yes it is," said the philologist, "it is becoming fully loaded and at the disposal of would-be bashers."
 "How is that," I asked.
 "Take for instance the meaning of words in the modern English lexicography," he said. "The meaning of a terrorist is a Palestinian Arab who has been deprived of his home and country and who finds no means of bringing justice to his case except violence. Such a person should be bashed, and so should be those who sympathise with him."
 "But how can a basher change the meanings of words in a democracy and carry his consistency with him?" said I.
 "Very easy," said the philologist, "he keeps loading his

words gradually, while the press faithfully repeats his words, until the language is fully loaded and no one stops to check the meaning of words."
 "Can you give me some more examples of the so-called loaded words," said I. "Yes of course," said the philologist. "A Muslim radical is a Muslim who is to be feared and watched because he is radical. Afghan rebels are against Godless communism. All Muslims who are not anti-communist are radical, fundamentalist and no good. Muslims become good Muslims only when they call themselves Muslims and they do not practice Islam. But then they become radical, or will have to be considered radical if only for bashing purposes!"

A problem probably without a solution

By Barry Schweid
 The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — When the United States and about 100 other nations meet in Geneva in September to review the 1972 convention prohibiting the use of biological weapons, they may have to conclude that the problem defies solution.

The sort of technology that promises to produce medical miracles is also rapidly refining this arcane method of warfare. The difficult problems of only two decades ago look like child's play by comparison.

The superpowers might be able to curb or even reverse the growth and proliferation of nuclear weapons through negotiations, but the outlook for biological toxins is not so promising.

For instance, biological weapons once were produced in factories that were relatively easy to identify. For one thing, they emitted a lot of steam.

Today, far more deadly weapons can be manufactured in extremely small quarters. Oversight is virtually impossible. Knowledgeable sources won't even say who has the capability to manufacture the weapons.

The United States unilaterally renounced the use of biological weapons in 1969. It was an act of morality, but also of good strategic sense. Specialists in the field had concluded the weapons were virtually useless in combat. They were both uncontrollable and fatal. The enemy could not be temporarily incapacitated in order to achieve a tactical objective, and the damage could not be contained.

Diseases like smallpox and anthrax, infectious diseases, were bound to be fatal. Worse, from a military standpoint, the

likelihood was they would spread far beyond the target area, possibly eventually killing friendly forces as well.

Genetic engineering over the past 5 to 8 years has changed all that — in a dangerous way.

It is now possible to design biological agents without extreme effects. Enemy troops could be knocked out for weeks or even hours, and surrounding areas may be left untouched.

This means U.S. military commanders have to consider biological weapons a real and potential threat. Adding to their anxiety is that the toxins no longer are produced in brewery-sized buildings. In other words, it is virtually impossible to tell what a potential enemy is up to.

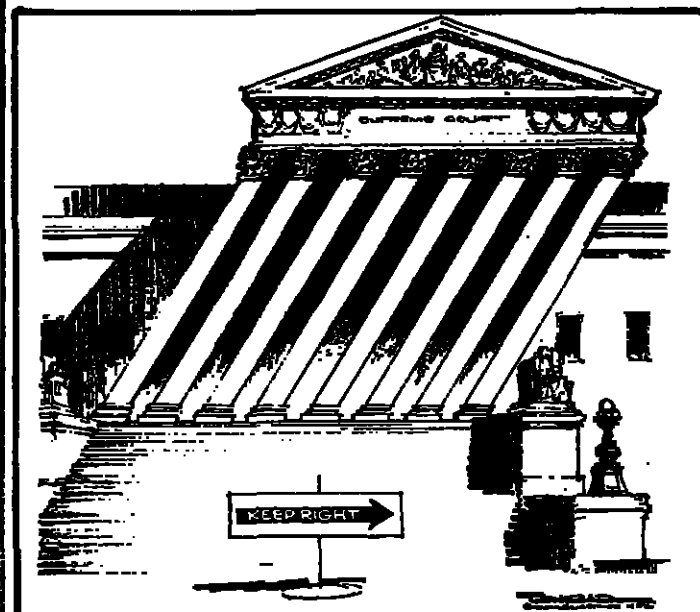
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense Douglas Feith, in charge of negotiations on biological weapons, likens the industrial process to a self-cleaning oven. By the time suspicious inspectors might turn up the traces of biological warfare, production would be gone.

The verification the United States insists must be part of any treaty with the Soviet Union to reduce nuclear weapons probably would not help enforce a tightened revision of the 1972 biological warfare convention.

U.S. researchers are working to develop antidotes to new toxins. But genetic engineering is so advanced the toxin can be changed quickly, outpacing defenses.

The United States already claimed the Soviets and their allies in using toxic substances in Afghanistan, Kampuchea and Laos.

Looking ahead to the September review, Feith observed recently: "There is no arms control solution to this problem."



Reagan seeks more 'sympathetic' Supreme Court

By James Vichi
 Reuters

WASHINGTON — President Reagan is trying to lay the groundwork for a more conservative Supreme Court after the just-concluded term in which his controversial social rights agenda suffered a series of devastating defeats.

On issues ranging from abortion, minority voting rights and preferential hiring programmes for minority groups, the high court in its nine-month term that ended last Monday sharply repudiated the Reagan administration's conservative crusade.

"It seems to me the most striking thing about this term is the administration took an aggressive stand in pushing its social agenda and was rebuffed," University of Virginia law professor Dick Howard told Reuters.

"The court has reaffirmed the position of previous years, continuing a centrist approach rather than a swing to the right."

But Reagan was presented with a chance to make the court more in tune with his ideology when Chief Justice Warren Burger recently decided to resign after 17 years.

Seeking to leave a judicial legacy after he leaves office, Reagan named justice William Rehnquist, the court's most conservative member, to succeed Burger. U.S. Court of Appeals judge Antonin Scalia, another conservative, filled the resulting vacancy.

Rehnquist, 61, and Scalia, 50, could serve for many years if, as expected, the Senate confirms appointments for life.

The court, in its final months under Burger, rejected administration arguments and reaffirmed its historic 1973 decision legalising abortion. It also gave a ringing endorsement to the use of affirmative action plans favouring blacks and other minorities in the workplace.

The court also rejected the administration's narrow interpretation of 1982 amendments to voting rights laws which bar any limitation on voting rights of blacks and other minorities.

A key administration loss was the ruling in the "baby Jane Doe" case that struck down government rules requiring hospitals to keep seriously deformed babies alive when parents decide against life-saving treatment.

In the face of these defeats the administration suffered in several important religion cases involving school prayer and government aid to parochial schools.

Despite the defeats, Justice Department officials defended the administration's approach as laying the groundwork for the future when the court may be more sympathetic to its views.

Most experts do not expect a dramatic shift in the court's direction when it reconvenes in October, presumably under Rehnquist's leadership and with

Scalia on the bench. "I don't think the court will be much different from what it is right now," Burger said in a rare television interview when asked if Reagan will finally have the court he wants.

"I don't think decisions will be fundamentally affected by this change," he said.

But over the long term, legal scholars said, the nominations of Rehnquist and Scalia may have far-reaching impact, giving the conservative bloc the intellectual firepower needed to win a majority on the deeply divided nine-member court.

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) said "the opening shot of the Rehnquist court" was fired with a recent landmark ruling that consenting homosexuals have no constitutional right to engage in sodomy in private.

Burt Neuborne, legal director of the constitutional rights group, criticised Supreme Court decisions upholding laws that make sodomy a crime in half the states and allowing the military to ban the wearing of skullcaps by religious Jews while on-duty soldiers.

"Orthodox Jews and gays felt the sting of the emerging Rehnquist court," he said. "It is more clear than ever that a majority of the present court lacks empathy with groups or values outside the cultural mainstream."

But the ACLU civil rights groups agreed the court had protected the rights of women and minorities.

"We looked at this term as perhaps the most important in 15 years for race cases," Barry Goldstein, an attorney with the National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People (NAACP) legal defence fund, a civil rights group, said.

The court bluntly rejected the administration argument that racial preferences must be limited to actual victims of discrimination, not broad minority groups.

Justice Department spokesman Terry Eastland said the battle over what the administration sees as reverse discrimination against whites will continue in future years.

"I think the court recognises racial preferences are temporary in nature, but it is unclear how soon the court will finally say enough is enough," Eastland said.

He also described as significant the court's ruling that struck down as unconstitutional the key provision of the Gramm-Rudman budget-balancing law.

Burger, accepting the administration view, wrote in his last opinion that the automatic mechanism for cutting government spending violated the constitution's separation of powers involving Congress and the president.

When the court returns in October, it will hear a sweeping challenge that the death penalty has been carried out in a racially discriminatory manner and a dispute between Reagan and Congress over military aid to El Salvador.

Enrile emerges as man to reckon with in Aquino cabinet

By Rajendra Bajpai
 Reuters

MANILA — Defence Minister Juan Ponce Enrile has emerged as the man to reckon with in Philippine politics after an abortive bid by supporters of ousted leader Ferdinand Marcos to topple the government, diplomats have said.

Enrile's support for President Corason Aquino proved crucial at a time some serving generals and officers appeared to be defecting in the belief that the durable politician was spearheading the move against Aquino.

Former Foreign Minister Arturo Tolentino led Marcos supporters in the failed attempt to install a new government, had himself sworn in as acting president last Sunday and named Enrile as his prime minister and defence minister.

Enrile spurned the offer, rallied to Aquino's side and after nearly 400 soldiers surrendered, he virtually granted them amnesty.

A former aide of Marcos, who did not want to be named, said the 62-year-old defence minister's action also sent a clear signal to

Marcos and his supporters — that they could not succeed without him.

"Aquino knows that Enrile and (armed forces chief General Fidel) Ramos really matter and has to reckon with them. She knows she cannot play around with Enrile," one Asian diplomat said. "He has also shown the Marcos loyalists that it is futile to fight the government."

When the attempted coup began with a fanfare last Sunday evening, Aquino was with Ramos in the south and Enrile was at a meeting in Manila with his trusted aides.

The minister was not immediately available to speak to reporters, fuelling speculation that he might abandon the 19-week-old government he had helped establish.

For 20 years, Enrile served Marcos. Then, along with Ramos, he led a military revolt in February that toppled the strongman in four days and Aquino assumed the presidency.

The Aquino-Enrile partnership was uneasy from the start. Enrile was Marcos's defence minister when Aquino's husband, former

senator Benigno Aquino, was jailed for seven years and eventually shot dead at Manila airport in August, 1983.

Political observers as well as Western diplomats said Aquino quietly appeared to be undermining her defence minister's authority.

Ten days ago the government sequestered 95 per cent of the shares in the country's second largest bank, which was headed by Enrile.

The government nominated its own men to the board of the United Coconut Planters' Bank and Enrile declined the offer to continue as chairman.

Enrile and Aquino also disagreed on how to handle the Communist insurgency. While the president has called for a ceasefire and sent out peace-feelers, Enrile has advocated a hard line.

A Western diplomat said that Aquino might now find it difficult to undercut Enrile as "his position has enhanced vis-a-vis the military and the government."

"He came out of it very well indeed," the diplomat said. "But I don't think the game is over yet. Enrile has the ball in his hand."

Diplomats agreed Tolentino's bid to seize power was probably based on the impression that he would win Enrile's support.

"He must have been convinced that Enrile would join him," the former Marcos aide said, adding that the revolt was doomed to failure from the start without the military's support.

Enrile also scored by permitting officers and men involved in the 15-hour revolt to return to their units without any government reprisals.

The Western diplomat said he had managed to project an "I am your godfather" image within the military.

Aquino's own image suffered in the process. She emerged in the perception of many people as an indecisive leader.

The president said on July 8 she had resisted pressure from supporters to take firm action because she did not want to turn the rebels into martyrs.

A Manila bulletin columnist wrote that the event had shown "Enrile holds the ace in any attempt to unseat the present regime."

Israel faces worst water crisis in its history

By Gail Fitzer
 Reuters

TEL AVIV — Israel, the country that boasts it made the desert bloom, is facing the worst water crisis in its 38-year history.

The sea of Galilee, Israel's only large fresh water lake and its major reservoir, is gradually drying up. Nearly all other natural and artificial reservoirs are completely empty.

The situation is so serious that the national water company has urged Israelis to save water by showering with a friend.

Experts say the crisis is mainly a result of four successive very dry winters, and the situation is unlikely to improve.

Yet the government continues to subsidise the price of water to the public sector and private consumers, and sprinklers still water the lawns of public parks in the midday sun.

"The reservoirs are lacking the amount of water Israel uses in a year, and each year the situation will get worse because no rain is falling," says Mordechai Yakobovitz, spokesman for the water company, Mekorot.

For the crisis to subside even slightly, Israel would need above-average rainfall for the next eight years, he says. Last winter it received only 60 per cent of the rain it needed.

In the past, Israel seems to have made the little rainfall it receives go a long way through irrigation, and its Arab neighbours accuse it of having stolen their water. But experts say it may not have the know-how to overcome the latest drought.

The cabinet ordered the country's water usage cut by 10 per cent (200 million cubic metres) last month.

Yakobovitz says many areas will probably have no water for limited periods this summer, ranging from a few hours to a day.

Agriculture, Israel's largest water consumer and a major export earner, has been hardest

hit by the crisis and is in the greatest jeopardy if it continues.

Farmers have been told to grow only crops which require minimal amounts of water.

But private citizens still seem to be squandering plenty of water, hosing their cars and gardens.

Many critics accuse the government of not planning for the foreseeable water crisis, and say the 10 per cent water cut is not enough to solve the problem.

However, Israeli water commissioner Zechah Ishay says he planned for the shortage several years ago but budget cuts of \$20 million over the past three years prevented him from implementing his ideas.

Itamar Givon, deputy budget director at the finance ministry, says Ishay's plans were not sufficient to counter the country's water deficit. "They may at best postpone the disaster by a couple of years, but they will not avert it."

The water commission concentrated on costly projects rather than establishing strict water quotas and eliminating the government's 50 per cent subsidy of water prices, he said.

A quarter of the water supply comes from the sea of Galilee in the north which is now two metres below its normal level.

Natural and artificial reservoirs and underground wells provide the rest of Israel's water. Nearly all of the 270 reservoirs are empty and 30-40 wells can no longer be pumped.

Because of the lack of rain, underground salt water has risen and mixed with well water, making it too salty to use.

The finance ministry has proposed that the government cut another 150 million cubic metres from water usage, drop water subsidies, and add a water tax to be used for the development of new water sources.

Yakobovitz thinks Israel will have to invest more in the development of new water sources and the transport of more sewage water to overcome the crisis.

Indian tribal leader ends long trek from jungle

By Chaitanya Kalbag
 Reuters

NEW DELHI — The stocky man's eyes flick warily around the elegant sitting room in the Indian capital, a subcontinent away from the steamy bamboo and teak jungles where he launched a guerrilla war 20 years ago.

Laldenga (one name) has come a long way since his Mizo National Front (MNF) separatist rebels traded gunfire with the Indian army in the remote, mainly Christian northeastern territory of Mizoram, sandwiched between Burma and Bangladesh.

The former accountant and World War II army radio operator shot to national prominence late last month when he signed a peace accord with the Indian government, ending an insurgency in which about 1,400 rebels died, were captured, or surrendered.

Quick to anger, the guerrilla leader, who left his men in the jungles and came "overground" in 1976 to talk peace, told Reuters: "I would rather not talk about those days."

The negotiations frequently broke down, leading to his arrest in 1979, and abortive ceasefire in 1980, and two years in exile in Britain from 1982.

Throughout the years of uncertainty, his outgunned guerrillas kept up their struggle for independence and remained personally loyal to him.

The peace accord was a personal triumph for Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, who faces a deepening domestic crisis sparked by a Sikh extremist campaign for independence in Punjab state.

It provides that the Mizoram government, led by Gandhi's Congress (I) Party, would step aside in favour of an MNF-Congress coalition headed by Laldenga.

The central government also pledged to start a process of conferring full statehood on the 20,700 sq km territory.

"Ten years is long enough to frustrate any person who wants peace," Laldenga said. "But I was determined to get through with what I had started. The government was honourable, but it wanted to hammer out what it wanted. Both sides were stubborn."

A wily negotiator, Laldenga brought the same shrewdness to the peace talks that helped him stay one step ahead of his pursuers from the day in March 1966, when MNF fighters briefly overran Mizoram's capital Aizawl.

"Yes, many times we had to run for our lives in the jungles," he said. "But everyone in a battlefield has to run for his life, whether he is a general or a private."

Caught in the crossfire between Indian and Pakistani troops, during the war that led to the creation of Bangladesh in 1971, Laldenga suffered another setback when the 'blue group' of

MNF strategists surrendered, robbing the movement of its intellectual lustre.

The guerrilla leader fled with a few close aides to Pakistan and then West Germany but his men emerged from disarray to set up new camps in Burma's hills and Bangladesh's Chittagong hill tracts.

The fighting shook up the tranquil lifestyle of the hardy Mizo tribesmen, who were converted to Christianity after the British annexed the rugged territory in 1876.

Thousands of villagers, who depended on precarious slash-and-burn rice cultivation on steep hillsides, were forcibly resettled by the Indian army in stockaded villages along a new highway built through Mizoram.

The insurgency in the territory — which has the fourth-highest literacy rate in India — was fuelled by chronic unemployment among young Mizos.

"My main priority will be social reconstruction," Laldenga said. "Unless we repair the damage to our tribal fabric we cannot carry out any economic development."

He said he also faced the task of rehabilitating former guerrillas, who number about 600. "They will need psychological rehabilitation," he added. "We trained these men to kill, but now we want them to make peace."

Laldenga angrily denied his men would surrender to Indian authorities within the four-week limit the accord lays down.

"They are not surrendering — they will merely lay down their arms," he said. "And don't call our struggle an insurgency — we were freedom fighters."

Laldenga said the press falsely traced the outbreak of the revolt to a crippling 1959 famine when he set up the Mizo National Front, forerunner of the guerrilla group.

"The famine was an excuse manufactured by the Indians," he said. "Mizoram was never historically part of India. We have no cultural or linguistic affinity with India — we speak a language that is more akin to Japanese."

"My mother, who died last year at the age of 95, was born free, before the British conquered us," he added.

Laldenga said he signed the peace accord because it promised constitutional safeguards for Mizo culture and religion.

"No other nationality should be allowed to go into Mizoram," he said. "Even Indians will require special passes to enter the state. We will be left alone."

He said Indian authorities had agreed he would take over as interim chief minister of the territory on August 12, paving the way for elections to a reconstituted state assembly.

"The prime minister was told by his intelligence agencies that I will sweep 80 per cent of the popular vote," Laldenga said. "I really command the great majority of the Mizo people."

Nakasone looks set for another term in power

By Yuko Nakamukado
 Reuters

TOKYO — The landslide election victory for Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) looks set to propel Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone into an unprecedented third term in power if he wants it.

After leading his Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) to its biggest ever majority — 304 of the 512 seats in the lower house — most political analysts believe he has won a mandate to extend his rule as head of the LDP.

Under the Japanese system, the leader of the majority party automatically becomes prime minister.

"After this unprecedented electoral victory, Nakasone could hardly step down in October when his second two-year term (as president of the LDP) expires," Mitsuru Uchida, professor of politics at Waseda University said.

Kiyoshi Iijima, a political analyst close to Nakasone, said the prime minister's supporters might now feel free to press for a third-term for Nakasone.

The LDP's current rules forbid a third term for its president and



would be all right," he said. Uchida is more emphatic: "Nakasone is likely to extend his current term, possibly for a year or so. Nobody can force a prime minister, successful in public elections, to resign just because of (the) rules of a political party."

All should become clear at a special parliamentary session to elect a new prime minister planned for around July 22.

If Nakasone does stay on, there is little chance of a policy change. His main themes have been administrative and educational reforms and moves to bring Japan into what he sees as its rightful, more influential, place in the world.

"I believe my policies, including diplomatic policies, have been supported by the people," Nakasone said.

Although most Japanese seem to back Nakasone's policies, many are uneasy about his position on the military. His enemies accuse him of being a hawk in defence matters.

Nobuo Tomita, a politics professor at Meiji University, told Reuters, however, that Nakasone will have to follow the policy established in 1976 of keeping

defence spending below one per cent of gross national product — at least until public sector wages are raised next year.

Both Uchida and Tomita forecast Nakasone will make greater efforts to reduce trade friction, especially with Washington.

"Japan owes the United States for restraint in not pressing for an even higher yen during the election campaign," Uchida said "with the U.S. mid-term election in November, Japan may now be ready to help Washington over trade friction."

Political analysts attributed the LDP's resounding victory to a mixture of factors.

They said the opposition failed to present alternative policies in an election that featured no real campaign issues.

In the faction-ridden LDP, competition among Nakasone's potential successors also encouraged conservatives, worried the fight would upset the balance, to cast a ballot.

Said Iijima: "Voters are more or less content with living standards. They have some anxieties about the future, (but they want) no radical change."

'Nuclear Winter' re-examined

By James Glack
New York Times

NEW YORK — American climate researchers have further moderated the most extreme predictions of prolonged freezing and possible human extinction put forward three years ago as part of the outlook for the aftermath of a nuclear war.

Because of the widely debated implications that such a "nuclear winter" would have for strategic policy, a variety of government agencies have spent millions of dollars since 1984 on computer calculations and other research to assess the possibility that smoke and soot could shut out sunlight, causing a chilling of the Earth's climate.

The calculations now suggest that the cooling would be less severe and less long-lasting than was originally believed, with a drop of perhaps 25 degrees Fahrenheit (14 degrees centigrade) instead of as much as 45 degrees Fahrenheit (25 degrees centigrade).

Scientists at the National Centre for Atmospheric Research in Colorado, the Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in California, the three main centres of research on the subject, caution that they are signalling a general retreat from the idea that the indirect aftermaths of nuclear war would cause human misery on a scale without precedent.

They say that, beyond the immediate casualties from blast and radiation, their computer models still show the potential for the widespread crop destruction from the torrents of smoke that would be sent skyward by burning cities and forests.

The scientists believe that hundreds of millions of lives would be lost to a broader combination of devastating effects, from changes in rainfall patterns to the breakdown of

industrial society. But Stanley L. Thompson of the atmospheric centre said: "It's quite different from what people were talking about."

"People really have in their minds the image of frozen lakes and frozen cornfields and having to dig through frozen ground to bury the dead, and those images are too extreme," he said.

The original hypothesis, as published by a group of scientists in the journal *Science* in December 1983, transformed the public debate over nuclear policy. The calculations, foresaw temperatures plunging well below freezing and suggested that the aftermaths of even a limited nuclear exchange might be worse than the immediate destruction from bombs and missiles.

Because firestorms in burning cities would pump millions of tons of black smoke high into the atmosphere, the authors calculated that a pall could spread over the entire Northern Hemisphere, blotting out nearly all sunlight for weeks. They estimated that months of temperatures below freezing could follow, spreading annihilation to countries far removed from the scene of combat.

On the basis of the climate predictions, biologists argued that the damage to interdependent plant and animal populations could cause mass extinctions. Since then, studies have continued to show what biologists consider dangerous sensitivity to even small climatic changes.

To strategists, this prospect meant that a surprise attack could be self-destructive even in the absence of nuclear retaliation, a view requiring a shift in the understanding of the theory of deterring war by the threat of heavy nuclear retaliation.

The 1983 calculations were based on the best available computer model. In January 1985, new findings by researchers at the Lawrence Livermore

National Laboratory and the centre for atmospheric research were presented.

They did not eliminate the possibility of an extended period of subfreezing temperatures, but indicated a range of possibilities from a prolonged deep freeze over much of the Northern Hemisphere to shorter periods of near-freezing temperatures over much smaller areas.

In the last year, computer models have taken into account more physical processes: the stabilizing influence of the oceans, the way wind would blow patches of smoke and the washing-out of soot particles by rainstorms.

As a result, the climate scientists now believe that a war in summer, when the effects would be most pronounced, would not push temperatures down to the freezing point. Some inland areas might experience days of freezing, while some coastal areas might feel little temperature change at all, they say.

In winter, when climate is more stable, they say the potential drop in temperature would be much smaller.

"Temperatures aren't going to be so cold that people who have some sort of shelter aren't going to be protected," said Michael C. MacCracken, who heads the modelling effort at Livermore. "Levels would be harmful to crops still, but would not probably devastate the natural ecosystems. It's going to be like temperatures we experience in the fall."

The original estimates showed temperatures plunging 45 degrees Fahrenheit and staying below freezing for months; the new estimates suggest initial drops on the order of 25 degrees. Although the new models differ in detail, they all point to a return to within 10 to 15 degrees of normal temperatures in the first month. A few degrees of cooling could last for several years, the new estimates suggest.

"Does the world have to freeze to an ice cube before people

become concerned about what's going to happen?" asked Richard P. Turco, one of the authors.

How the revised view of "nuclear winter" should affect strategic thinking is very much matter of perception. Some scientists argue that the new data differ from the original report only by degree and that the biological consequences remain uncertain and dangerous.

However, Mr. Thompson and Stephen H. Schneider of the atmospheric centre argue in the current issue of *Foreign Affairs* that the policy implications have changed sharply.

They note that the "nuclear winter" theory has influenced strategic thinking in two important ways. Some strategists have been led to speak of a "suicide" effect in any surprise attack.

According to this idea, an aggressor would be restrained by the knowledge that climate effect could be as severe as the direct damage from nuclear retaliation. Mr. Thompson and Mr. Schneider contend that the scientific data no longer support that notion.

Similarly, they criticise the theory that a threshold exists above which nuclear arsenals become a weapon that cannot be used without destroying the entire planet. The threshold argument has been used to support calls for reducing arsenals; it has also been used to suggest a motive for a limited surprise attack, on the theory that the targeted nation would be afraid to retaliate.

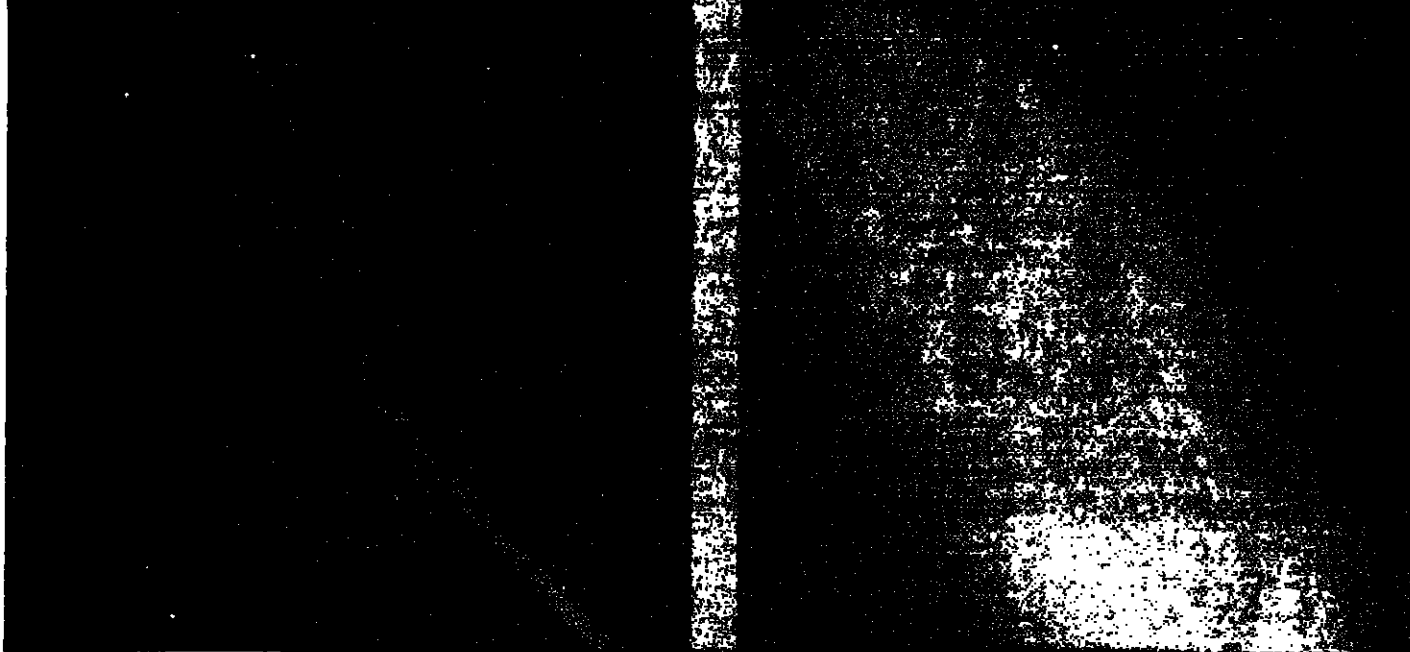
Mr. Thompson and Mr. Schneider contend that no such threshold exists in a realistic model and that human extinction is no longer a plausible consequence of nuclear war.

Many of their colleagues, who read the article as it circulated before publication, criticised it as premature. "It's one calculation," Mr. Turco said. "Things could change again."

Carl Sagan, the Cornell University astronomer, who has been one of the strongest advocates of the nuclear winter idea, said that in any event the precise temperature predictions were far less important than the potential biological consequences. "I don't think nuclear winter implies subfreezing temperatures, not necessarily," Mr. Sagan said. "You can have winters in which the temperatures are not below freezing."

"A single day in which the temperature dips below zero can destroy a rice crop," he said. "A local temperature decline of three or four degrees is enough to destroy all wheat and barley growth in Canada."

Mr. Thompson and Mr. Schneider said they expected further refinements as climate models were further improved.



At left, a United States Army missile over the White Sands, New Mexico, testing ground races toward a target meant to simulate a nuclear warhead. At right, the first fractional second of impact. The vehicle is known as the flexible lightweight agile guided experiment, or FLAGE. Previous targets were stationary. The pictures were taken on June 27.

U.S. space crisis highlights awesome Star Wars hurdles

By Christopher Hanson
Reuters

WASHINGTON — After a string of U.S. space disasters, experts are asking if America's proposed "Star Wars" system can even be lifted into orbit, let alone work as a leak-proof anti-missile shield.

The sceptics, who include many top scientists, stress the awesome technological hurdles to be overcome if President Reagan's dream of making nuclear weapons "impotent and obsolete" through space defence is to be realised.

Even before the traumatic loss of the space shuttle Challenger in January, which shook the nation's faith in its space expertise, many scientists doubted man was capable of building a defence against the terrifying power of the intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM).

Now the U.S. space programme is in its biggest crisis since the late 1950s — grounded indefinitely after successive explosions of the Challenger and two unmanned rockets. Space experts say a dramatic leap in U.S. launch capability would be needed just to hoist a Star Wars system into orbit.

Star Wars, also known as the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI), would require an array of orbiting weapons fast, accurate and smart enough to zero in on hundreds of multi-warhead Soviet missiles within a minute of launch.

The defences then would have to destroy thousands of warheads concealed in a massive, space cloud of hundreds of thousands of decoys.

If only a handful of Soviet warheads got through, millions of

Americans could die.

SDI officials, who prefer not to be identified, say research so far has resulted in some significant breakthroughs in laser weapon technology and other areas and insist the future for space defence is promising.

They point to last month's army experiment in which a ground-fired test rocket destroyed a missile in the atmosphere travelling at three times the speed of sound.

But the vaunted space shuttle orbiting over the Soviet Union to destroy as many missiles as possible during the short boost phase, before their multiple nuclear warheads were released. Even if lasers could be perfected, the congressional report said, boost phase defence would be extremely difficult.

The Soviets could deploy fast-burn boosters, shortening the phase from five minutes to as little as 30 seconds, congressional sources said.

In the midcourse phase, Soviet missiles would release decoys to hide warheads among up to one million objects, the congressional sources said. Scientists seeking ways to identify warheads among decoys are far from a breakthrough.

At the terminal phase, when warheads approach targets, ground defences could be overwhelmed, space experts say.

The congressional report said a Star Wars system orbiting above the Soviet Union would be extremely vulnerable to pre-emptive destruction — from anti-satellite (ASAT) weapons, pellets shot into orbit, space mines, ground-based lasers now under development, or raids by space-walking cosmonauts.

They say the Soviets could use nuclear air bursts to knock out U.S. radar, equip warheads with wings to manoeuvre away from anti-missile rockets and slip coastal submarine-launched warheads and low-flying cruise missiles through radar gaps.

Critics say Star Wars defences would be so vast and complex the system as a whole could only be tested in war.

They say the decision to start up would have to be made so fast, in seconds, that the SDI computer system itself would take it — effectively removing from human hands the decision to fight World War Three.

"We'd never be able to trust it," said David Parnas, an engineer who quit an SDI computer unit.

These kinds of technological problems and the dent to the power of technology delivered by the crippled space programme have led to a sharp differences in the Reagan administration.

Reagan has insisted since he first made the Star Wars proposal in 1983 that his goal is a leak-proof shield for populations and Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger asserts that is still the aim.

But SDI officials, citing technological limitations, say a leak-proof shield cannot be achieved and Star Wars will protect only selected sites such as missile bases.

More than 1,600 scientists and engineers from government and industrial laboratories urged last month that SDI funding be curbed because, they said, a leak-proof shield was a myth and a partial defence would only stoke the arms race.

Chernobyl throws doubts over Swiss civil defence

By Peter Conrad
Reuters

LUCERNE, Switzerland — For the thousands of motorists who drive through it every day, there is little to distinguish the Sonnenberg tunnel from the many others that mark the route through the Alps on the way south to Italy.

From a speeding car, you cannot see the 1.5-metre thick concrete blast doors and you can only imagine the thousands of bunk beds, portable toilets and cans of food piled just behind the tunnel walls.

The tunnel, set in a hill just outside the lakeside town of Lucerne, is not just part of a major north-south motorway.

It is also Switzerland's largest nuclear shelter and a showpiece of its massive commitment to civil defence.

However, in the aftermath of the explosion at the Soviet Union's Chernobyl nuclear reactor in April, critics have begun to wonder if vast expenditure here on shelters over the last 20 years would provide any protection in the event of a disaster nearer home.

"Our whole civil defence policy is based on nuclear war where rising political tension is expected to give the government two or three weeks to prepare the people," Heinz Mueller, general secretary of the Civil Defence Union, a private group, told Reuters.

But Chernobyl shows that civil catastrophes can be a problem.

Like other countries, Switzerland began building shelters in the 1960s amid fears that growing tension between the superpowers could erupt into nuclear war.

When Cold War gave way to détente in the late 1960s and 1970s, the dust began to settle on most countries' shelters.

But the Swiss carried on building, committed to providing a place in a shelter for all by the year 2000 as an integral part of

their policy of armed neutrality. Under the ambitious scheme, all homes and offices built since 1966 must have a bomb-proof shelter in the basement. These account for 85 to 90 per cent of total places.

The rest are housed in public bunkers, the largest of which is Sonnenberg.

It has room for an underground community of 20,000 people, complete with sophisticated air and water filtering, operating theatres, prison cells — and a safe deposit room to store the family valuables.

The programme has cost around half a billion francs (\$275 million at today's prices) a year over the 20 years but, true to the Swiss passion for getting value for money, the shelters are designed to have other uses in peacetime.

A took into an average private family shelter is likely to reveal wine bottles, ski and boxes, while many public shelters are used as youth clubs or rented out as practice rooms for rock bands. At Sonnenberg, the beds and emergency toilets would actually be set up on the motorway tarmac.

The fact that shelters are not empty and ready for immediate use is the problem, say the critics. Mueller's group is worried that while shelters are required by law, it is only since the beginning of the year that new ones have had to be equipped with the emergency equipment, beds and other items necessary for survival.

Under the new law, people who already have shelters have a ten-year grace period to which to equip them.

"Of course you can use them in an emergency," said Mueller. "But without toilets, beds and so on you are going to be forced out after a few days, radioactivity or not."

It takes around 50 hours to get the Sonnenberg tunnel completely ready for mass occupation, 10 to 12 hours of it just to close the massive blast doors.

However, local officials point

out that it could be occupied almost immediately in the case of a sudden emergency. Unlike most shelters, all the equipment is already there, including several days' supply of a special long-life emergency grub for use once normal food supplies run out.

Heinz Mumenthaler, director of the Federal Office for Civil Defence, is unimpressed by criticism of the ideas behind Swiss civil defence policy.

He also rejects charges, heightened by the Swiss authorities' restrictive information policy in the early days after Chernobyl, that not enough is done to inform the public.

"In the case of sudden danger through radioactivity, we can get a first and quite substantial degree of protection by ordering people to stay at home, go down into the cellar, or their shelter," Mumenthaler said in a recent interview.

As for information policy, Mumenthaler said that every Swiss telephone directory carries several pages of multi-lingual instructions telling people what to do in case of emergency.

Chernobyl would prompt the authorities to take a close look at many aspects of Swiss civil defence policy, but there was no need to turn it on its head, he said. However, such a shake-up is precisely what a small but vocal minority want.

According to the anti-nuclear "Friedenszeitung" (peace newspaper), concentrating on civil defence diverts attention from what should be the main goal — working to prevent nuclear war and to find alternatives to nuclear power.

"We have a choice," the latest edition of the newspaper said. "Either we continue to build the already massive 'protection apparatus' and accept living with the risk for life, or we fight such resignation by striving for an immediate escape from the atomic holocaust."

Preventive agent to combat arteriosclerosis?

By Dr. Robert Lutz

IT has always been medicine's long-cherished dream to be able to at least retard the "calcification" of the blood vessels in old people. There now appears to be new hope in the form of medication from the "calcium-antagonist" group. These substances might be able to reduce deposits in the brain's arteries.

The most common disorder of the arterial system is arteriosclerosis. As people grow older, cholesterol crystals and calcium form deposits on the walls of almost all human blood vessels. This leads to a narrowing or even total blockage of the transverse section of the vessels. A team headed by Prof. Albrecht H. Fleckenstein, Freiburg University, has been able to prove through extensive experiments

and studies on rats that calcium antagonists can prevent or drastically reduce calcium deposits in ageing cerebral arteries.

Prof. Fleckenstein earned world-wide fame in 1967 as the first researcher to find out how calcium antagonists work. This group is used to treat coronary heart diseases. It works as follows: During the excitation phase of the heart's pumping movement, varying amounts of electrically charged calcium atoms (ions) flow into the myocardium (heart muscle) cells, causing the heart muscle to contract with varying degrees of energy. The calcium antagonists retard this process. The heart muscle no longer contracts as strongly, thus requiring less oxygen. At the same time, the tension of the vessel walls is reduced. The heart can now operate on its "overdrive"

since resistance to its pumping movement has decreased. Calcium antagonists also help to improve blood flow through the myocardium and protect it against damage caused by excess levels of calcium ions. The latter are capable of destroying entire areas of vascular and myocardial tissue.

Fleckenstein recommends that hospitals consider the possibility of using calcium antagonists prophylactically when treating geriatric conditions. The Freiburg study, which will be published shortly, does not clarify whether antagonists also help prevent mental decay in very old people.

What does seem to be clear, however, is the fact that these substances show little effect once "geriatric calcification" has set in. By this stage, the arterial walls have been destroyed by calcium — German Research Service, Bonn

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Williams boss watches team go through paces

BRANDS HATCH, England (R) — Formula One team chief Frank Williams, back on the Grand Prix scene for the first time since a road accident in March, watched his team drivers set the fastest and third-fastest times in Friday's opening practice for Sunday's British round of the world championship.

Wheelchair-bound Williams, still paralysed from the back injuries suffered in the accident, watched Brazilian Nelson Piquet blaze round the 4.2 kilometre circuit in a pace-setting one minute 07.690 seconds followed by title-challenger Nigel Mansell from Britain in 1:08.818.

Piquet and Mansell had occupied first and second places for a time — an effort which must have satisfied his boss — but Austrian Gerhard Berger sandwiched his Benetton between them late in the session with 1:08.196.

Williams has been closely monitoring his team's tremendous progress from a distance this season and at last felt himself able to appear in person.

He knows Mansell has every chance of becoming Britain's first

world champion since James Hunt 10 years ago. "Nigel is doing a magnificent job," said Williams. Although Mansell, who had his third win of the season in last Sunday's French Grand Prix, was relegated to third overall, he fared better than title rivals Alain Prost of France and Ayrton Senna of Brazil.

Reigning champion Prost, just one point ahead of Mansell in the drivers' standings, was sixth best in his McLaren while Senna, third overall, had to settle for fourth fastest in his Lotus.

Senna left with Saturday's final qualifying session in which to book his sixth pole position this season, blamed the poor adhesion of his car's tyres.

Piquet won in Brazil soon after Williams' crash in southern France, but he has not tasted

success since.

He needs another first place in order to stay in touch with the leading trio. "I think we can improve a little tomorrow," he said. "I think the team is going very well. We have quite a good chance of winning here."

Mansell said mechanical problems during the morning session had affected his performance in the timed run. His Williams needed an engine change which delayed his appearance on the track.

"There was not enough time to set up my car," he said. "But in the circumstances third was not too bad."

Frenchman Jacques Laffite had an eventful day. His Ligier caught fire and was extensively damaged at the end of untimed practice. Then his reserve car collided with the McLaren of Finland's Keke Rosberg at the hairpin. Neither driver was hurt.

In spite of his handicap, Frank Williams was willing to talk to reporters after the session. "The team seemed to do better without me — but I miss it," he joked.

"I've got to be patient. I'm paralysed from the shoulders down although I moved my wrists for the first time Thursday."

"In six months from now, I should be able to shave, feed and make a nuisance of myself."

Williams said he now goes to his team's headquarters every day but makes no racing decisions. He leaves everything to his chief designer Patrick Head.

"It's just great to be at a racetrack again," he added.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

FC Homburg sign two Polish World Cup players

HOMBURG, West Germany (R) — Polish World Cup soccer pair Andrzej Bunol and Roman Wojcicki have signed for newly-promoted West German First Division team FC Homburg, a club spokesman said Friday. He said team official Udo Gertinger returned with the players Thursday after three days of negotiations with Bunol's club Legia Warsaw and Wojcicki's club Widzew Lodz which ended with their transfer for a total of \$551,000.

Debt-ridden Sunderland pay manager top salary

LONDON (R) — English Second Division soccer club Sunderland paid manager Lawrie McMenemy £166,000 for guiding them to their worst position in the club's 108-year history last season, according to accounts issued Friday. McMenemy was appointed managing director at Sunderland a year ago, but the club, who avoided relegation to the Third Division by winning their final match of the season, lost £479,000 on the year ended May 31, 1986. Sunderland are now £691,000 in debt and have a bank overdraft of £532,000.

Bruno preparing new weapon for his bout with Witherspoon

LONDON (R) — Britain's Frank Bruno is developing a secret punching weapon in his attempt to capture the World Boxing Association (WBA) heavyweight title from American Tim Witherspoon.

Bruno, who has been training behind closed doors for his championship challenge here on July 19, said Friday: "I have been working on new punch combinations and I didn't want to give anybody a preview of them."

He added: "We have studied videos of Witherspoon in action

for hours on end and we think — no, we know — we have the answer to him."

Bruno's manager Terry Lawless said: "We have barred everybody from watching Frank spar because with so much at stake you never know who is spying. Obviously we are not going to say what the new punch combination is."

Bruno said: "Witherspoon will find out next Saturday. He just might like to know that any time he prepares to throw his right he will be in big trouble."

Sweden unveils its 'secret' star

By Alf Ofsa
Reuter

STOCKHOLM — Mikael Pernfors, the 22-year-old tennis star who last week replaced the injured Anders Jarryd on Sweden's Davis Cup team, was known to few Swedes before he battled his way to the final of the French Open last month.

"It was against all the odds that I would be nominated for Sweden's Davis Cup team, but it feels great and I will certainly do my best if I get to play," he told Reuters in a telephone interview from Switzerland and after his selection.

Non-playing captain Hans Olsson announced Jarryd was having a cartilage operation on Thursday and would have to rest until the end of the month. Pernfors, ranked 14th in the world after reaching the fourth round at Wimbledon last week, was selected for the title-holders' quarter-final against Italy in Sweden next week. His teammates are Mats Wilander, Joakim Nystrom and Stefan Edberg.

"After Sweden won the cup in 1984 against the United States, my American friends liked to joke that it was sad I was a Swede because there were so many Swedish players who were better than me that I would never make it to the Davis Cup team," he said.

Sweden was producing one teenage wizard after another in the early 1980s at the end of the Bjorn Borg era, when Pernfors went his own way and enrolled at a U.S. college.

He won the U.S. College Championship in 1984 and 1985 after taking the junior title in 1982 and 1983, but it was only when he stunned the world in the French Open that most Swedes realised

they had a "secret" tennis star in America.

Pernfors, who moved one place ahead of Jarryd in the ATP rankings after Wimbledon, was beaten by Ivan Lendl in the Roland Garros final. At Wimbledon, he went down in the fourth round to champion Boris Becker, whom he had defeated in Paris.

He now believes his decision to go to the United States was a wise move allowing him to develop his talents without pressure.

"I studied economics in Florida and in Athens, Georgia. It was a perfect combination — studying and playing tennis but without feeling pressurised to play well enough to earn a living from it. Instead, I concentrated on my economics degree."

Pernfors, who stands 173 centimetres tall, turned professional last year but was dogged by a back injury for six months. Early this year he reached

the semi-final in Memphis, Tennessee, only to be stopped by Edberg.

Later he reached the quarter-finals in three U.S. tournaments and in Atlanta he got his revenge over Edberg with a first round victory.

He failed in his first European appearances, going down in the first round in both Monaco and Nice, and returned to the United States only to lose to Ecuador's Andres Gomez on clay — the Swede's favourite surface.

"Disappointed, he returned to the Athens, Georgia, campus to practice of clay courts for six days for a second go at Europe."

"During those six days, I didn't have a single beer, a drink I love. I have never been in Athens before without drinking beer," he said.

The training technique evidently paid off. The result was the final of the French Open and a solid performance at Wimbledon, his first grass court tournament.

Johnson dominates Lewis as Moses continues streak on the final day of track in Moscow

MOSCOW (AP) — Canada's Ben Johnson ran the fastest 100-metres ever at low altitude at 9.95 seconds and continued his recent domination of Carl Lewis, while hurdler Edwin Moses won his 11th consecutive race as the track programme at the Goodwill Games concluded Wednesday night.

Second was Chidi Ima of Nigeria at 10.04, with Lewis, the 1984 Olympic champion, third at 10.06. It was the fourth consecutive race in which Johnson has defeated Lewis.

"If my block didn't slip at the start a couple of inches, the time would have been even better," said Johnson.

A fifth world record was added to the list at the games, this one in cycling, as a Soviet squad smashed the record for the four-kilometre team pursuit.

Moses, running only his second race in almost two years, led from the start and scored a two-metre victory in the 400 hurdles, an event that has become almost his personal domain.

He was clocked in 47.94 seconds, well off his world record

of 47.02, but fast enough to beat Alexander Vasilev of the Soviet Union and Dave Patrick of the U.S.

The Soviets and the Americans continued to dominate the sixth day of competition in the 70-nation sports festival.

By late in the day, the United States had 27 gold medals and 72 overall, to the Soviets 26 golds and 98 total medals.

"When I beat Carl last time, he was complaining," Johnson said. "This time I beat him pretty good. I just want to see what he will say this time."

Lewis didn't say much. "I didn't get off to a good start and Johnson ran a great race," said Lewis.

The Soviet Union's four-man pursuit cycling team was clocked at 4:12.830 in qualifications, smashing the old mark of 4:14.264 set by another Soviet team. It was the 116th world record set at the Olympic Velodrome in Krylatkoye.

The U.S. women's basketball team remained unbeaten, with a 67-58 victory over Bulgaria. The Soviets.

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WHITE PODDLE DOG

In Jabal Amman - Zahran area — a dog with a red leather collar has been lost.

If found or seen please inform Zahran police station or tel. 817563.

N.B. Dog needs further treatment.

TENDER ANNOUNCEMENT NO. 87/86

The Natural Resources Authority is in need of the services of an onshore drilling rig with its crew for exploration on oil and gas in Jordan to drill and complete different wells. Rig should be capable of drilling to a depth of 4000 m with 5 inch drill pipe. The rig will be contracted for one year with possible extension for further terms.

Tender documents could be purchased from the Procurement Division of N.R.A. at the Eighth Circle for JD 150.

Closing date of tender is August 25th at 10 a.m. A bid bond in the value of 5% and in the form of a bank guarantee or endorsement cheque is required.

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TENDER ANNOUNCEMENT

The Jordan Industrial Estates Corporation (JIEC) invites the contractors who were prequalified for Irbid Industrial Estate project to collect the tender documents for this project from JIEC offices in Amman Industrial Estate at Sahab, against a non-refundable sum of JD 500.

The last day for the submission of the offers, together with a tender guarantee amounting 5% of the contract value, shall be 12.00 noon of Monday 25th Aug. 1986, at JIEC offices in Amman (the Housing Bank Complex, third floor).

Jordan Times Tel: 667171-6, 670141-4

"AVIS A LA COMMUNAUTE FRANCAISE"

L'Ambassade de France a le plaisir de faire savoir a la communaute Francaise qu'a l'occasion de la Fete Nationale une reception sera organisee dans les jardins de la residence de l'Ambassadeur de France le 14 Juillet a 18 H 30.

Les invitations seront disponibles au Consulat a partir du 6 Juillet, entre 9 H00 et 12 H00. Elles seront exigees a l'entree."

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LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One sterling	1.5143/53	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3768/78	Canadian dollars
	2.1805/15	West German marks
	2.4565/75	Dutch guilders
	1.7810/20	Swiss francs
	44.85/90	Belgian francs
	6.9975/0025	French francs
	1497/1498	Italian lire
	160.85/95	Japanese yen
	7.1145/90	Swedish crowns
	7.5300/50	Norwegian crowns
	8.1375/425	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	347.80/348.20	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Equities closed with an easier bias after a mixed opening in stock end of account trading, dealers said. The market showed no reaction to news that the retail price index, Britain's main measure of inflation, fell 0.1 per cent in June for a year on year of 2.5 per cent. At 1430 GMT the FTSE 100 share index was down 2.7 points at 1,624.0 compared with an opening 1,625.7.

Much interest was centred around the Lloyds/Standard Chartered bid battle. Lloyds ended 3p at 422 while Standard Chartered fluctuated to close 2p fatter on balance at 779.

Standard said earlier that Far East businessman Y.K. Pao now holds 14.95 per cent of the bank following the purchase of further shares. Another Far East businessman, Tan Sri Khoo Teck Puat, has disclosed a stake of 5.03 per cent in Standard.

The bid, which closes on Saturday, was expected to succeed until recent stakes were built up by Far East and Australian interests, apparently to defend Standard. This puts the outcome in some doubt, dealers said.

Other banks were little changed, overshadowed by the Lloyds/Standard saga but in merchant banks newcomer Morgan Grenfell lost a net 4p to 476 after an early 481.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Saudi Arabia gives wheat to Egypt

BAHRAIN (R) — Saudi Arabia has given Egypt 200,000 tonnes of Saudi wheat, the first government aid announced since Riyadh severed diplomatic ties in 1979 over Cairo's peace treaty with Israel. In a message to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, King Fahd said the consignment "was from the Saudi Arabian people to the Egyptian people as a sign of respect for your leadership," the official Saudi Press Agency reported. The grain deal came amid an export drive by Saudi Arabia to dispose of its one million tonne wheat surplus. King Fahd told a Kuwaiti paper last month that shipments were going to many states in the region at competitive prices.

Iran, Syria agree to new oil deal

TEHRAN (R) — Iran has agreed to sell Syria 2.5 million tonnes of oil over a six-month period to next March, the national news agency IRNA reported Thursday. An oil ministry spokesman, quoted by IRNA, said the agreement was signed between Iranian Oil Minister Gholamreza Azadeh and his Syrian counterpart, Mr. Ghazi Droubi. The spokesman did not give the price agreed for the oil or whether a barter deal had been arranged. No mention was made of repayment of Syria's debt to Iran arising from shipments of discounted Iranian oil since 1982, which were stopped earlier this year. Diplomats say the debt totals \$1.1 billion.

Bahrain offshore bank assets decline

BAHRAIN (R) — Assets of Bahrain's offshore banks fell 4.5 per cent in the first three months of 1986, official figures released Thursday showed. Data from the Bahrain Monetary Agency (BMA) put the volume of assets at \$54.27 billion at the end of March, down from \$56.81 billion at the end of 1985, and \$61.08 billion at the end of the first 1985 quarter. Bankers said the figures reflected a continuing decline in the business of the roughly 70 offshore banks of Bahrain.

Qatar eases trade with GCC states

RIYADH (OPECNA) — Qatar has permitted companies operating in member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) to export their products to the country without the formality of maintaining a local agency. A statement issued here by the GCC secretariat said the Qatari announcement was in line with a decision adopted by the GCC states in March 1986 to encourage the private sector to promote economic and professional activities in the region.

Iraq, Egypt sign commerce agreement

BAGHDAD (OPECNA) — An agreement on economic, trade and technical cooperation between Iraq and Egypt was signed here between Iraqi Trade Minister Hassan Ali and visiting Egyptian Economy and Foreign Trade Minister Sultan Abu Ali. The accord provides for each country a commodity exchange quota of \$100 million. Under an earlier accord this year Iraq agreed to supply Egypt with one million tonnes of cement in return for foodstuffs. The new accord also stipulates bilateral cooperation in agriculture, fisheries and animal husbandry, besides containing proposals designed to encourage the Egyptian private sector to contribute to land reclamation efforts in Iraq.

Ozal to visit Moscow this month

ANKARA (R) — Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal will visit the Soviet Union from July 28 to August 1, the foreign ministry said Friday. Diplomats said the visit was seen as part of Turkey's policy of improving ties with Eastern Bloc countries. Economic ties between Turkey and the Soviet Union have expanded steadily, with trade volume reaching \$410 million last year. This is due to jump when Turkey starts to buy Soviet natural gas from the end of next year.

S. Korea rules out oil price cuts

SEOUL (OPECNA) — South Korea has no intention of cutting domestic oil prices in the near future despite the fall in international crude prices, according to the ministry of energy and resources here. A ministry source said that the recent oil price slide only involved a "small amount of crude on the spot market which would not have any immediate effect on the price of South Korea's oil imports.

U.S. key interest rate reduction throws Japanese into confusion

TOKYO (R) — A cut in the key U.S. interest rate threw Japanese markets into confusion Friday and sparked a battle between the nation's central bank and its powerful trade and industry authorities.

International Trade and Industry Minister Michio Watanabe called for Japan's 3.5 per cent discount rate to be taken down another notch, in line with the U.S. rate cut, to help the flagging economy and stop the yen rising further.

But Bank of Japan officials reiterated Thursday's statements by bank governor, Mr. Satoshi Sumita, that the central bank would not follow Washington's move. Japan's rate has been cut three times already this year, he said.

Finance Minister Noboru Takeshita remained sitting on the fence. The central bank would have to make its own decision, he told reporters.

The U.S. Federal Reserve (Fed) said Thursday it was lowering the fee it charges on loans to banks

and savings institutions to six per cent from 6.5 per cent, effective from Friday, to enliven the sluggish U.S. economy.

Japan's financial markets, unsure what the government would do about the discount rate, jumped both ways.

The Tokyo stock market, believing the Bank of Japan really was considering a rate cut, had its second largest daily turnover on record with heavy buying cranking the market average up 200.95 points to 17,670.77.

Initial reaction of Tokyo foreign exchange dealers to the U.S. rate cut was to sell off the dollar to 159.30 yen in the Sydney and Wellington markets before the Tokyo market opened.

But once the Tokyo market opened, dealers changed their minds, bought back dollars sold

earlier to balance their positions and started speculating over whether Japan and West Germany would follow Washington's initiative.

The dollar closed Friday in Tokyo at 160.90 yen, up from 160.05 yen in late New York trading.

Tokyo bond dealers took yet another view. They said the Bank of Japan would not be forced to cut its discount rate unless the dollar took a plunge.

Industry remained pessimistic. The latest report by the economic planning agency said that the high yen, which makes Japanese exports too expensive for many overseas buyers, would trim corporate earnings further over the next nine months.

For the United States, the Fed's reduction of its key discount rate should help to improve an anaemic U.S. economy but some analysts say they do not expect a significant rebound until late this year or in 1987.

"This is a reaction to the fact the economy has been moving sideways for the past two years," Mr. David Wyss, economist at Data Resources, a private forecasting firm, said.

The reduction sets the stage for stronger growth by reducing borrowing costs for businesses and consumers. Commercial banks have already begun to cut their prime rates, most of which are pegged at 8.5 per cent for their best customers. A small regional bank, Southwest Bank of St. Louis, reduced its rate to eight per cent within an hour of the Fed's move.

The biggest immediate beneficiary will be the housing industry, but other sectors will take longer to rebound as the impact of lower interest rates filters through, Mr. Wyss said.

Financial markets should be pleased by the cut, but a major reaction is unlikely since the move had been expected, he said.

The economy's sluggishness depressed the stock market this week, with the Dow Jones

industrial average tumbling a record 62 points in one day when investors grew pessimistic about corporate profits.

The White House, which has been denying that it was pressuring the politically-independent central bank, welcomed the rate reduction. It "is in line with the decline in short-term rates that has occurred in recent weeks," a spokesman for President Reagan said.

But the United States made clear it wanted other countries to cut their rates also because of the slow growth worldwide. The Fed's solitary action could put pressure on other nations, particularly Japan and West Germany, to make reductions.

Lower U.S. interest rates could lead to further appreciation of the yen and hurt Japanese exports, and also lead to a further weakening of the dollar against European currencies.

Earlier, West German monetary officials said they did not have plans to cut their rates, but economists in Frankfurt Friday said a cut might come by the end of the summer.

In lowering the discount rate for the third time in four months, the Fed said it was following an accommodative credit policy. It justified the rate cut on grounds that prices generally, and commodity prices especially, have been low and that growth in the broad measures of money supply, which can signal dangerous inflation, has been in the safe range.

Consumer prices have risen only about two per cent over the past year, and analysts expect the consumer price index to rise between 1.5 per cent and two per cent for this year.

Mr. Wyss said government statistics due out in two weeks could show national product expanding at less than two per cent in the April-May quarter. He said growth should pick up gradually through the rest of the year.

U.S. wholesale price index posts record 6-month fall

WASHINGTON (AP) — Wholesale prices in the United States have dropped in the first six months of this year at an annual rate of 6.5 per cent, the largest half-year decline since the government first kept such records in 1947, the Labour Department said Friday.

That compares to an overall 1.8 per cent increase in the wholesale price index for all of 1985.

Gasoline prices rose by 2.9 per cent last month after an 8.6 per cent jump the month before. Food prices were flat after a 1.1 per cent rise.

Analysts said although the big drops in the index of early 1986 brought about by the world collapse in oil prices are clearly over, they do not anticipate a rebounding of inflation anytime soon.

General weaknesses in the economy and continued high trade deficits are keeping inflation low, analysts say.

"There is so much slack in the U.S. and world economies that basic commodity prices remain under tremendous downward pressure," said Mr. Allen Sinai, chief economist for the financial firm of Shearson Lehman Bros.

In fact, most energy prices, excluding gasoline, continued to fall. Natural gas prices dipped 5.8 per cent and heating oil prices fell 6.8 per cent.

The declines among foods were 9.8 per cent for vegetable prices, 6.4 per cent for eggs, and 2.4 per cent for beef and veal. Alcoholic beverage, soft drink and coffee prices also fell.

These gains were offset, however, by increases of 18.2 per cent in fish prices.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, JULY 12, 1986

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A perfect Saturday to get out and do errands and shopping that await your attention. Study budget and practical interests. Don't let any detail escape you.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Study into periodicals and see experts who can be helpful to you. Become more dynamic and purposeful.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) A good day for improving yourself and to study use of spare time. Increase happiness for the future.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Much to make of your home today, so get busy. Entertain old buddies and have a fine time together.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Call or see persons who need cheering up and would love to see you. Bring along candy or flowers.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) A day to yourself when you can plan home improvement or for getting your wardrobe in better order.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Try to reach a person you want to see more of and get together. Have a very enjoyable evening.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Small talks require your attention and you handle it efficiently. Remember some small favor your mate asks.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Get in touch with good friends and show you are still devoted. Join a group affair of your interest.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Get into civic duties you have been neglecting. Study ways to have more prestige in public.

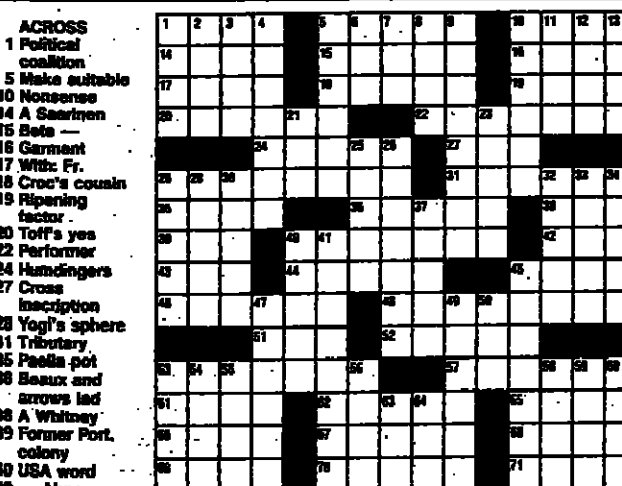
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) This is the day for recreation you have been looking forward to. Be where you can meet interesting people.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Good day to handle practical and financial affairs. Make collection. Pay Bills. Then see a close friend.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Talk plans over with an associate. You can handle any civic work that needs to be done by you.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will be very capable at mathematics and whatever requires much manual labor so be sure to slant the education along such lines as building, plumbing, roofing. Teach to be more humanitarian and your progeny could become quite prosperous.

THE Daily Crossword by Mary Coo Whitten



ACROSS
1 Political coalition
5 Make suitable
10 Notorious
14 A Santorum
15 Role
16 Greatest
17 White Fr.
18 Cro's cousin
19 Ripping
20 Toff's yes
22 Performer
24 Founders
27 Cross
28 Yoga's sphere
31 Tributary
35 Paddy pot
36 Beaus and
37 arrows led
38 A Whistler
39 Former Port.
40 USA word
42 — Abner
43 Travel stop
44 Vt. city
45 Cobbler's item
46 Holiday drink
48 "Frog" name
51 Sp. queen
52 Mother of
53 Perseus
54 Purple juice
57 Actress Ritt
61 Holiday song
62 least fee
65 — National
66 Park
67 Africans
68 This selector
69 A. C. collage
70 See 51 A
71 Eat in style
DOWN
1 Dirty
2 Star of Luck
3 Neighbor of
4 Ear part
5 Afr. republic
6 Corner's
7 to —
8 Mexican craft
9 Wonderfull
10 Cope in a way
11 Dances
12 Encourage
13 Roll call word
14 Craft for
15 three meat
16 Bars of the
17 Attends
18 Worker's
19 mastery
20 Indulgent
21 One over per
22 On the way
23 Common speech
24 Indian city
25 T. S. or George
26 "Life of —"
27 Vatican
28 Cheering word
29 Captain's
30 Wharf
31 — Bator
32 Of time
33 Canon role
34 Satellite
35 Miller's Moore
36 Pierre's pal
37 Math-proof
38 initials

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



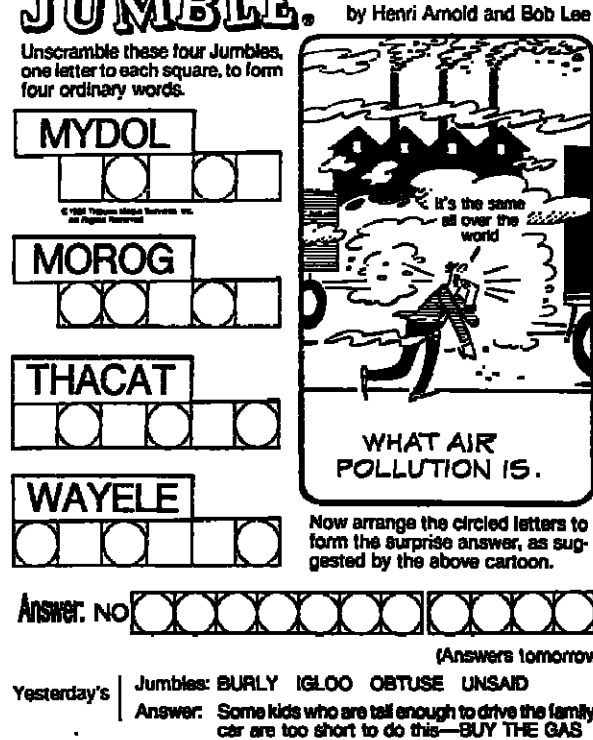
Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME



10 ANC rebels reportedly killed in S. African clashes

JOHANNESBURG (Agencies) — South African forces have shot dead 10 black guerrillas in two separate clashes at opposite ends of the country, police announced Friday.

A statement from police headquarters in Pretoria said six trained African National Congress (ANC) guerrillas were shot dead Thursday at Alldeys near the northern border with Botswana.

Police killed four more men Friday near King William's Town in the eastern Cape province, it said.

The government Bureau for Information meanwhile reported that fighting had erupted between residents of Soweto black township near Johannesburg and migrant workers living in a hostel there.

The bureau, the main source of information on political violence since President P.W. Botha declared a nationwide emergency a month ago, had few details of the fighting around the Mzimbahe

Hostel.

It said it could not confirm reports that houses had been set on fire. Two men were stabbed to death in a clash at the same place earlier this week, the bureau said.

Poor migrant workers living in men-only hostels are often politically conservative and have frequently fought with radical township youths seeking to overthrow the white-led government.

Some hostel dwellers support the Inkatha movement of moderate Zulu Chief Mangosuthu Buthezi, who is at loggerheads with the radical United Democratic Front (UDF).

Police said the six guerrillas killed in the northern Transvaal had infiltrated South Africa from Botswana, one of the black nations that Pretoria has raided in

the past in attacks on alleged ANC targets.

A seventh guerrilla in the group escaped but was apparently wounded and a member of the security forces was wounded by a bullet in his side.

Police said they seized Limpet mines, hand grenades, rifles and pistols.

In the eastern Cape Friday morning police stopped a car whose four occupants immediately jumped out and opened fire. One man was killed in the first shoot-out and two others were shot dead after a car chase. The fourth was found dead in the car.

The policemen, who were unhurt, seized grenades and guns, the police statement said.

Since the emergency was declared on June 12 a total of 14 bombs have exploded in South Africa, killing three people and wounding more than 100. Pretoria has blamed the ANC, the main group fighting the government.

Early Friday South African

state radio warned the country's black neighbours that countries supporting economic sanctions against Pretoria would be the first to suffer when South Africa took defensive measures.

"If sanctions do succeed in damaging economic activity in South Africa it is going to take active steps to ensure that the least possible harm befalls its own people," the radio said in a commentary which invariably reflects official thinking.

Witnesses in Soweto said they believed the dead included five of the Zulu hostel residents and two so-called "comrades," young militants from the surrounding meadowlands neighbourhood. There was no official confirmation of casualties.

The situation was still tense at midday Friday although the fighting had stopped, and residents of the neighbourhood were packing belongings, preparing to leave their homes in case of a new attack from the men of the hostel.

Pressure for change increases in Vietnam

BANGKOK (R) — Vietnam's ageing revolutionaries are under increasing pressure to make way for younger leaders after the death of Communist Party Chief Le Duan, veteran of wars against the French, the Americans and major economic problems, diplomats said Friday.

Le Duan's death at 79 Thursday, only months before a congress due to order the biggest reshuffle in the party's history, brought the still unresolved succession issue to the fore, said the diplomats.

But the party, which has had only two leaders since it was founded in 1930, is expected to respond with a caution and secretiveness born out of years of underground struggle, the Western and Asian diplomats agreed.

Hanoi may not even name a new secretary general until the congress, leaving its strongly collective politburo to run the party until then, they added. The congress is expected to be held in November.

Vietnam began a five-day mourning period Friday for Le Duan, who Voice of Vietnam Radio said succumbed to old age and serious illness. It gave no cause of death but he was widely reported to have been suffering from kidney and lung problems.

"Le Duan's passing away is a great loss to our party and people," a statement by the party and staff leadership said.

The radio, monitored in Bangkok, said his funeral would be next Tuesday in Hanoi.

The pro-Hanoi government in neighbouring Kampuchea, where Vietnam maintains an estimated 140,000 troops, Friday announced it would also observe five days of mourning and send its top leaders to the funeral.

Voice of Vietnam announced a 15-man funeral committee headed by President Truong Chinh, 79.

Zhao criticises U.S. air raid on Libya

ATHENS (R) — Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang was referring to the recent U.S. raids on Libya when he said terrorism should not be used as a pretext for attacking other nations, Chinese officials said Friday.

Mr. Zhao said at a banquet given in his honour by Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu Thursday night: "Recently in the Mediterranean there has been a serious situation which is worrying the Chinese people."

"We are against every form of terrorism and the use of violence as a means of political struggle. At the same time we are against the violation of the territorial and national sovereignty of other countries on the pretext of dealing with terrorism."

Senior officials in Mr. Zhao's party said that although the premier did not name the United States he was referring to the American raids on Libya on April 15.

One commented on the fact that Mr. Zhao's visit was the third to Europe by Chinese leaders this year and added: "The whole drive is to see how far we can work with

Europe so that we can deal with the superpowers together."

"Europe should be more united in order to face up to the United States," a senior Chinese official said.

He said Mr. Zhao was very satisfied with his trip to Greece so far. Both countries were working on a number of joint projects.

China wanted to export more oil, coal and ceramics to Greece, and Peking wanted to buy electrical goods and trucks from Greece, he added.

There was also talk of opening a Chinese shipping office in Greece.

He said the Zhao visit was part of China's aim to see how Europe could help in China's modernisation.

"We have now gone one step in consumerism beyond television sets and tape recorders and the people now want cars and refrigerators, although we do not have the money for these yet," he said.

Mr. Zhao, in a relaxed mood, toured the Athens national archaeological museum and expressed admiration for ancient Greek sculpture.

"This art was unsurpassable," he said.

Robbers kill 2 Bangladeshi policemen

DHAKA (R) — Two policemen were stabbed to death and two wounded when robbers attacked a bus in western Bangladesh, police said. They said the robbers jumped off into a field near Gopalganj after smacking the policemen's weapons and jewellery and cash from passengers.

Five men were executed for murder or rape in Zhengzhou, the provincial capital of eastern China's Henan province, according to an execution poster seen near Zhengzhou. The poster, seen this week, said the men were executed on June 27 after sentencing by the Zhengzhou Intermediate People's Court. The normal method of execution is by a bullet in the back of the head. The posters said four of the five had been convicted of murder, and the fifth of raping three young girls. An estimated 10,000 people have been executed in China since an anti-crime campaign began in 1983.

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Indian police kill 2 Sikh extremists

NEW DELHI (AP) — Police shot and killed two members of a Sikh gang who had hurled a bomb at a police jeep, the government's All-India Radio reported Friday.

The newscast said the bomb explosion Thursday night seriously wounded a policeman driving the jeep. The jeep was carrying the chief of police operations in Ferozepur district in Punjab state, it said. He apparently was not injured.

Police opened fire on the group involved in the ambush. Two of the assailants died and the others escaped, the radio said.

Hundreds of police Thursday combed the countryside in Ferozepur, bordering Pakistan, in search of Sikh terrorists who have killed at least five Hindus in the region in recent days.

A group of Sikh militants riding

motorcycle raided the farm house of a retired army major-general Thursday night, killing a servant and wounding four other people, the United News of India (UNI) reported.

The news agency said Gen. Dillbagh Singh, a Sikh, was not among those wounded in the attack in Punjab's Kapurthala district, 375 kilometres north west of New Delhi.

Sikh extremists have killed 450 people this year in Punjab state in an escalating terrorist campaign whose objective is greater autonomy or independence for the Sikh-dominated region.

Meanwhile in separate development the Mizo National Front guerrilla organisation Friday formally renounced its demand for independence in the Mizoram region following a peace

accord with Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

"The constitution of the provincial government of Mizoram has been discarded and declaration of independence has been abrogated and set aside," Mizo Chief Laldenga told reporters in New Delhi.

Laldenga gave a written statement to the Indian Interior Ministry, saying his underground group accepts the Indian constitution and is dismantling its government-in-exile.

The guerrilla chief, formerly exiled in England, said his underground fighters would lay down their arms by the end of July. He said he hoped to be installed as head of the new interim government in Mizoram on Aug. 12.

U.S. to reduce personnel at Spanish air base

MADRID (AP) — The United States has agreed to replace 10 per cent of the American personnel at an air base outside the capital with Spanish citizens, a newspaper reported Friday.

The newspaper El Pais cited an unspecified member of the American delegation to troop-reduction talks held Thursday as saying the U.S. agreed to take the measure in accordance with a commitment made in preliminary talks last December.

The Torrejon Air Base just east of Madrid, the site of annual anti-North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) and anti-American protests by leftist and pacifist groups, includes 4,507 U.S. military personnel and 685 American civilians under a 1982 bi-lateral accord.

The American source also told the paper the Spanish delegation had agreed to an American request that the troop-reduction talks form part of wider negotiations to update the current friendship, defence and economic treaty which expires in 1988.

The U.S. defence complex in Spain includes 12,500 troops and 1,670 civilians at two air bases, a naval station, a firing range, six communication stations and a weather station.

The conditions of the bilateral defence agreement were established in a 1953 treaty that has subsequently been renewed.

At the end of the talks, a joint communiqué issued by Foreign Ministry Secretary for Foreign Policy Meximo Cajal and outgoing Ambassador Thomas O. Enders said "as part of a previous accord reached last December, the United States agreed to reduce a part of its military presence at the Torrejon Air Base to be substituted mainly by Spanish civilians."

The communiqué also said the delegations were told to hold a second round of discussions of troop reductions in early October.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Innocencio Arias told Spanish television Thursday the government sought to negotiate "a significant or substantial reduction" of the U.S. presence without affecting the security of Spain, its other North Atlantic Treaty Organisation partners or the United States.

At one point during the 40-minute interview, he held up a magazine cover featuring himself and flamboyant car industry executive Lee Iacocca as presidential "wild cards."

"I love it," he exclaimed with a big grin.

On AIDS, Robertson drew his parallel with the medieval bubonic plague that wiped out much of the earth's populace and alleged that homosexual activists have blocked some health measures as infringements of civil rights.

"We have to forget the right of gays to engage in homosexual acts," he said. Robertson has often cited "rampant homosexuality" as a sign of declining morality.

Although still regarded as a long-shot for the 1988 Republican nomination to succeed the retiring Reagan, Robertson boosted his standing in that contest with a strong showing against Vice-President George Bush.

Robertson, who has never sought public office, said he will make a preliminary decision about his political plans in September.

But the fundamentalist minister, whose daily 90-minute TV show reaches an estimated 12 million Americans each week, said his political inexperience does not disqualify him for the presidency.

Australia to become more self-reliant in defence

HOBART, Australia (AP) — Australia plans to reorganise its military to become primarily a force capable of defending areas of Australian interest, Defence Minister Kim Beazley said Friday.

Mr. Beazley, in Hobart to steer the government's defence platform through the policy-making conference of the governing Australian Labour Party, said Australia's defence would no longer be structured to integrate its military forces with that of its allies, primarily the United States.

The plan calls for new ship and submarine construction, increasing the size of the Australian reserves and opening new military bases in northern and north western Australia, Mr. Beazley said.

In an interview with the Association Press, Mr. Beazley said the blueprint for the reorganised Defence Force was a government-commissioned report by defence analyst Paul Dibb, who presented his recommendations to Mr. Beazley last month.

Recommendations in the report will form the basis of a government policy statement to be issued next year, Mr. Beazley said.

He said the prime focus of Australia's military activity would be to defend all areas up to 1,600

kilometres off of Australia's coast, including a broad sweep of the Indian Ocean, South East Asia, the South Pacific and the Southern Ocean.

"We would never contemplate unilateral action in that area, but Dibb sees it as useful for us to be capable of cooperative military activity with friends in the region and allies," Mr. Beazley said.

He said Australia still supports the ANZUS defence alliance with the United States and New Zealand, and hopes for a rapid solution of the dispute between New Zealand and the United States.

The U.S. government has suspended cooperation with New Zealand because it has banned nuclear-powered U.S. warships from its ports.

Mr. Beazley said U.S. reaction to Australia's proposed defence restructuring had been favourable.

"There is an understanding on the part of Americans that they like to see allies get serious about their defence requirements," he said.

"They seem to be happy enough to fit in with whatever is going, having assured themselves that what they see as important in the alliance is intact," he said.

Evangelist to restrain supreme court power, AIDS

VIRGINIA BEACH, Virginia (R) — Evangelist Pat Robertson, a potential U.S. presidential candidate for 1988, said he is restraining the supreme court and fighting the killer disease AIDS would be high on his White House agenda.

In an interview with Reuters at his Christian Broadcasting Network (CBN) headquarters, the popular southern Baptist minister said the court, which has angered conservatives with rulings on such issues as school prayer and abortion, has assumed far greater powers than intended by the constitution.

He called AIDS "the most dread communicable disease since the black death of the Middle Ages" and said the rights of homosexuals must not impede efforts to control the disease.

Trim and athletic at 56, with cherubic good looks and a genial manner, Robertson outlines his controversial views before a television flock of millions five days a week.

A Republican and a potentially powerful magnet for religious conservatives who helped President Reagan win the White House, Robertson is obviously enjoying the added celebrity stirred by speculation over his political future.

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Typhoon kills 71 people in Philippines

MANILA (R) — President Corason Aquino Friday declared a state of calamity in northern Philippine provinces hit by typhoon Peggy and ordered the release of \$550,000 for relief and rehabilitation work.

At least 71 people were killed, 20 were reported missing and dozens were injured in the typhoon, which caused damage to property, crops and livestock estimated at \$13 million.

Among those killed were five people crushed when a boulder dislodged by heavy rain rolled down on their shantytown hut at the bottom of a quarry in east Manila early Friday.

Mrs. Aquino said: "The damage to property has been extensive and the loss of lives has made this calamity a tragedy as well."

The president, who visited a Roman Catholic Church in a Manila suburb where about 300 families took shelter at the height

of the typhoon, appealed to the private sector to help in relief work.

About 200,000 people were evacuated to higher ground in the northern provinces as well as in Metropolitan Manila when Peggy lashed the northern island of Luzon before swirling towards the South China coast near Hong Kong.

Authorities said they expected the death toll damage to rise when contact was made with areas which had been cut off.

Philippine Airlines resumed regular flights and work in government and private offices was back to normal, but schools stayed closed because of flooding in some areas.

An Agriculture Ministry official told reporters said the typhoon had hit crops, including corn, worth nearly 160 million pesos (\$8 million) in the 12 northern provinces.

Damage to roads, bridges,

buildings and power lines was put at 80 million pesos (\$4 million) while livestock losses ran to 20 million pesos (\$1 million).

The mountain resort town of Baguio, 200 kilometres north of Manila remained isolated because of landslides.

Hong Kong's Royal Observatory said Peggy, with winds of 130 kilometres an hour, was about 260 kilometres south east of the British colony this morning and was expected to hit land near Shantou in China's Guangdong province Friday night.

Offices and schools stayed open and flights at the colony's Kai Tak Airport were on schedule, a government spokesman said.

Some ferry services were suspended and fishing boats were warned to seek shelter. Typhoon Ellen, the last major storm to lash Hong Kong, killed about 30 people in the colony and nearby Macao in September 1983.

Malaysia adjourns case of missionaries

KAJANG, Malaysia (R) — A court adjourned to next week the case of two New Zealand Christian missionaries charged with hurting a Malaysian Muslim's religious feelings by saying the Koran and Islam were untrue.

The court was to have resumed Friday after opening on Wednesday. The hearing was postponed to Monday because the prosecutor was involved in another case.

Bail was extended for Grant Terrence Nesdale, 28, of Hamilton, and Julian Mary Miessen, 27, of Christchurch.

Nesdale and Miessen belong to youth with a mission, an international